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STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION
SOUTH AVE. & MIDDLESEX
MISSOULA, MONTANA

October 1955
Volume 1
No. 1

MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY

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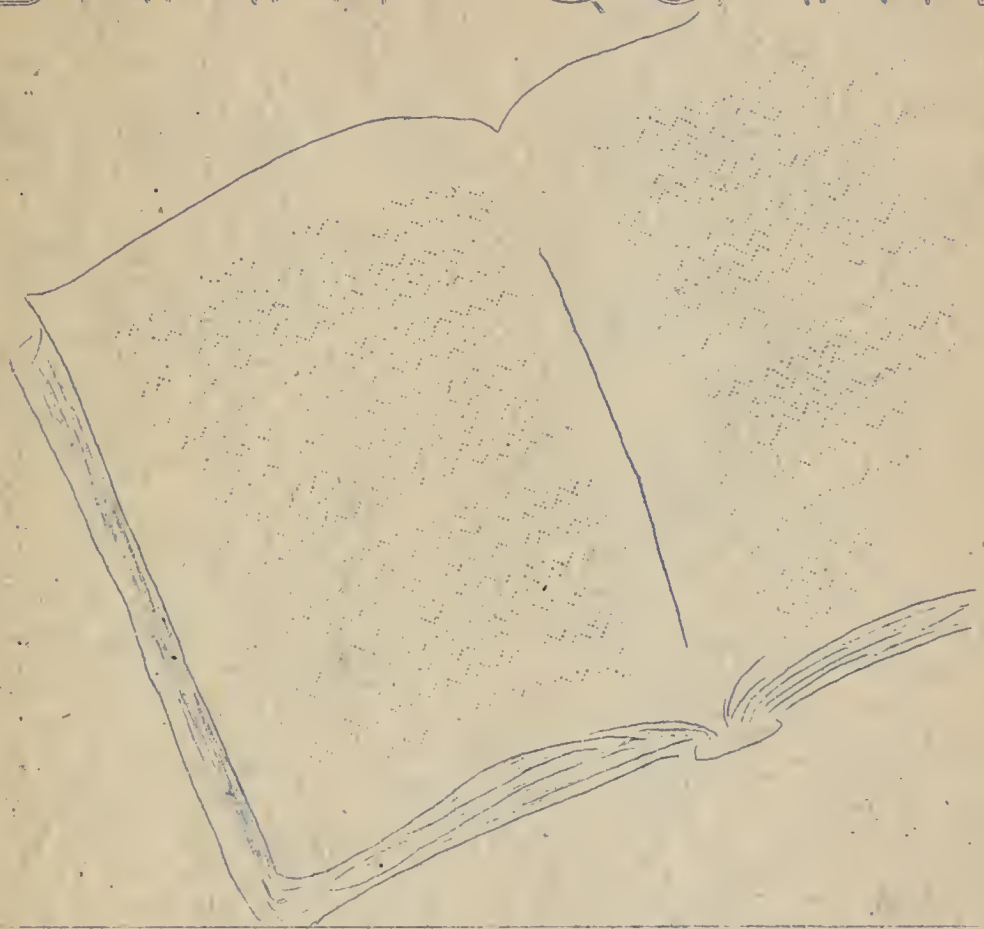
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

October 1955
Volume 1
No. 1

MONTANA

LIBRARY QUARTERLY



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE
MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Official Publication of the Montana State Library Association

Vol. 1, No. 1 October 1955

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STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION
SOUTH AVE. & MIDDLESEX
MISSOULA, MONTANA

The Montana Library Quarterly is sent free to members of the Montana State Library Association. To all others the annual subscription is $1.50 payable to Mrs. Clare Smith, Public Library, Miles City, Montana.

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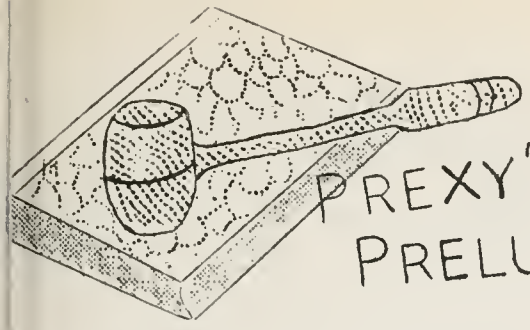

PREXY'S PRELUDE

Every year means growth in our collective library experience since the founding of the Montana State Library Association in 1906, with its stated purpose "to promote library interests in Montana." Scholarly libraries dedicated to study and research have been developed to meet the needs of the university system and to preserve Montana's historical heritage; school administrators are increasingly aware of the importance of adequate library collections to strengthen the curriculum, with able librarians enriching class room study through books and introducing boys and girls to the joys of recreational reading; and public libraries, with their services available for any member of the tax community, have long made important cultural contributions to cities and towns. But libraries with limited tax structure have not been able to serve a large part of Montana's rural population. That today is our collective problem, which out of our collective experience, wisdom, and determination we must solve; together we must find the wisest ways to give adequate and efficient library service to all the vast reaches of Montana.

The 1955 legislative session gave one of the most important boosts to our hopes for internal as well as external growth, with enough funds added to the Commission's budget to make possible a librarian to work out over the state and direct our thinking toward improvement of service. It is true that we all feel the need for kinship of purpose and leadership to knit us together into a stronger front; but if in years past we have found strength in cooperation, this is the year for us to make our motto "Know and Grow."

We need to know ourselves for our own responsibilities to our community, to look very closely at the services we are giving and to decide if we are exerting as much leadership in the community as we might, interpreting our library collections and services to the community to the fullest degree, and making our libraries the significant service they can be. And we need to take on an experimental frame of mind and think new ideas. What library journals have we read during the past year, with an eye always cocked for the new idea that might be tried out in our own bailiwick? What ideas have we really taken time to try out? Have we found some ideas that worked, and perhaps a few that failed? And have we honestly tried? Have we sat down with ourselves and mapped out a six-month program, with definite goals in mind, and come upon a fresh new idea to put new vitality into our services? And do we know nation-wide trends and talk about them with patrons and those who are leaders in our communities? It is so true that we need to look to ourselves in this self-evaluation program; but we need to realize that our neighbor in the next library community is facing the same kind of problem and that we can't solve the problem of better service all alone.

Surely this is our year for internal growth - we must know our community needs and learn to find at least some of the answers within ourselves. And then in all good will we must reach out for help from our neighbors, who after all are members of the Association. We're in this library business together, most of us because we happen to think that connecting books and people in Montana is the most challenging job we could ask for. But if we've made for ourselves nice, comfortable little ruts, I want to name this the year we jog ourselves out of them.

Knowing cannot be synonymous with growth, but it certainly is the first step if knowing can bring us to a larger point of view. A map I prize carries this wisdom in its margin "Make no small plans! They have no magic to stir men's souls!" Montana is big, has big problems; and it takes big people to surmount these problems with big, effective plans and to convert them into the finest library service of the Northwest.

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY SERVICES BILL!

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

At our conference in Miles City last May, the membership voted to offer to assume responsibility for Montana Libraries during 1955-1956 while Ellen Torgrimson is on leave. After several discussions, some correspondence and a good deal of thought, the executive board and the State Library Extension Commission decided that for this first year both publications would appear. Most states have separate publications from the state library agency and the state library association so Montana is not out of line here.

Why another library periodical? For one thing, by state law, Montana Libraries must be printed and this limits the amount of material it can afford to carry. Furthermore it is the organ of the State Library Extension Commission and the Montana State Library Association cannot expect it to cater especially to its needs. The Association has reached the point where it needs its own publication in order to keep the membership informed of developments. For example, Rita McDonald has prepared full proceedings of the very excellent Miles City conference and these will be published in full in three parts, the first of which appears herein. A regular column for Friends of the Library, and one for school librarians seem essential at this time when we are trying to get support from both of these groups.

This first issue is being sent to all the librarians in the State whether or not they are members of the Association, to the Associate members or Friends, and to a number of other interested persons. After this, however, it will be sent only to members and Associate members of the MSLA. To all others it will cost $1.50 per year.

We hope that you will enjoy this publication, will find it helpful, and will give it your support. The members of the Publications Committee will appreciate receiving news notes, and suggestions for articles or other features.

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OUR FAMOUS THREE "C'S"

Just exactly ten months ago yesterday a certain Mrs. Longworth sat down and wrote a certain Mrs. Schenk, living way down on the southermost tip of Alabama, whether Mrs. Schenk wouldn't enjoy coming to Miles City May 6-8, 1955, to talk some more about a subject we had discussed at the ALA Conference in Minneapolis which had just closed.

It was as though we hadn't finished all we wanted to say at the meeting, as sometimes happens, and then some one says "Come over to our house, we'll make a pot of coffee and then we can talk some more." Naturally the temptation was great but the hurdle of distance seemed almost infurmountable. "Barkis was willing" and before we knew it, those never-say-die Montana librarians had all the arrangements made and here we are, sitting down together to talk some more about those famous three C's in library service -- "Congregate, co-ordinate, co-operate" -- those three words that give us a clue to improving services to those who, in return for our labors in their behalf -- feed, clothe and shelter us, our taxpayers.

We cannot conceivably cooperate without congregating in person or by mail from time to time. We can't cooperate in a vacuum. We need to know with whom and to what purpose we wish to cooperate and getting together to talk things over -- the necessary congregating, as we are doing here at this meeting - is the first step. We see the results of successful meetings over and over - as well as the dire consequences of NOT meeting. Traveling about the country from state to state and library to library, we are concerned over the fact that members of various library staffs do not know each other, or only superficially. That probably doesn't happen in Montana! More than that we know of instances where library boards of municipal and county libraries operating in the same communities have never had the pleasure of meeting together. In one of the southern states, one library board was persuaded to make some unhappy moves to obtain a better income, something that the other board resented bitterly. Though years have passed since the incident occurred and none of the members of those two boards is still active, both boards still pretend disinterested nonchalance whenever anything concerning the other board is mentioned.

There are, of course, some fine examples of what happens when trustees and librarians do congregate. One of the most notable examples is that of the Erie County, New York, Library Association. Even though Erie County and Montana may have little in common as far as distances and density of population go, the fine spirit is the same. As Tom McKaig, one of the originators of the Association has described it:

"In 1943 I was a trustee of the Hamburg Free Library. Hamburg is 15 miles from Buffalo and was at that time a community which was proud of its library and, as far as such libraries in general are concerned, supported it fairly well From the corridors of the County Court House we heard rumors that the board of supervisors contemplated the organization of a county library, so we became interested. We knew practically nothing about a county library, but we knew that, politically mishandled, it might be a great harm to this little institution for which we trustees were responsible. We felt that other library boards might feel as we did, so we invited the other 22 library boards in the county to come to Hamburg and talk it over."

And talk things over, they did. The trustees met quarterly and soon found that they had many problems in common. They talked about Public Relations, Library Insurance, Financial and Budget Policies and many other things. They met at various libraries throughout the area and the ladies invariably served refreshments. Mr. McKaig reported, "Over coffee and sandwiches, ice cream and cookies, we got to know each other and our hesitancy to talk openly about our problems disappeared. Also, from one librarian who had been associated with a good county library we learned what could be done with such an organization, and began to talk about how we could promote one."

It took four years of congregating before the county library became a reality. "Fortunately," Mr. McKaig admitted quite freely at that point, "four years of talking over problems, drinking coffee and eating sandwiches together had broken down political barriers and erased most

of our distrust and jealousies." Having sold themselves on the idea of a large unit, they then proceeded to sell county residents. They campaigned, and believe me, when trustees campaign for better service, their word carries weight. The trustees were in harmony among themselves regarding the general idea and even most of the details. They sold the Grange, the local PTA, the Federated Womens Clubs, the Labor Unions, Rotary, Kiwanis, League of Woman Voters, and just about everyone else, since the measure won by a good margin, just as your campaign for a field worker and a better budget for your state agency won through your educational campaign.

The trustees didn't stop there, either. They secured the appointment of a representative, bi-partisan board (which is important in Erie County), and then proceeded to indoctrinate the members of the new board, because, "after all," as Mr. McKaig put it, "Your political body is the group who must be sold on the establishment of the county or larger unit library. Obviously all the way up the line these men must be educated on what a county or larger unit library is, why it is worthwhile and what influence it may have on their political future." And may I say here parenthetically, that many a county commissioner has discovered what a powerful political force good, cooperative library service can be!

As his final piece of advice to trustees, Mr. McKaig suggested points that fit in well with this discussion on the need for congregating to promote cooperation. He said: "Sell yourself on the advantages of a county or larger unit library.

> "Organize the trustees of your area. Get the librarians to help you plan, but remember, the trustees must sell the political powers."

"Learn to know other trustees and discuss your ideas with them without distrust or jealousy" - a very important point.

"Don't wait for your state agency or state library planning committee to do these things for you. Get their advice but do it yourself as a local trustee."

"Work out your own solutions with the materials you have in your area, even though it may not be strictly orthodox."

Lest some of you think that this discussion on the need for congregating prior to working out actual cooperative schemes has turned into a talk to and about trustees, we might point out that librarians were in this planning right from the start. We know that librarians and trustees gain better insights into common problems over coffee and sandwiches. We also know it from the requests which come to us, such as "please come and talk to our trustees. I would like to get them interested in a larger unit of service, but they are still satisfied to be just the city library board." We are convinced that horizons need to be widened among our citizens, and the Erie County plan shows that it can be done.

Two other examples might be cited, showing how trustees can congregate. Last year the Arkansas trustees enjoyed two bus tours sponsored by the Arkansas Library Commission. In my own state of Alabama the state library board completed a tour of 19 libraries in five days just a year ago, members meeting with trustees, librarians and friends to hear and discuss common problems. In each case participants came away from these meetings feeling well repaid for having gotten up early, traveled miles and miles or spending precious hours away from their business. We just can't cooperate very well until we meet and know each other.

We can't cooperate without coordinating either. We know that, theoretically, of course, but two years ago the Public Library Executives Association of Southern California began to discuss in all seriousness the possibility of a centralized processing set-up. The P.L.E.A.S.C. had long considered the possibility of streamlining mass production of a detailed job such as classification, cataloging, and book preparation. Nearly fifty libraries reported on various phases of the investigation. Titles catalogued varied from 243 for one library to 10,622 for the Los Angeles City Library. Volumes added, from 268 to 136,783. Costs for cataloging ranged from 52 and 58 cents for two county libraries, which did not make full sets of cards for many of the books, to $1.40 and $1.55.

The median cost was 85 cents. Average cost per book also showed wide variations. The 13 libraries that reported on this item showed a variation in adult non-fiction between $2.20 and $4.00. Fiction ranged from $1.73½ to $3.00. Average book discounts ranged from 20% to 38%, which is highly important when we consider that the citizens served by the library that gets only 20% (or even only 10% as one small library we recently visited), can buy almost a fifth less for its book fund than the library that gets 38%. Or, turning it around, the library that gets the best discount can also supply its readers with the most books.

In this study on possible coordination, the variations in processing methods were a wonder to behold. Perhaps more than any other feature, this showed that many of our libraries were still not too far removed from the day when each library was a law unto itself, and cards for the catalog were hand written. There seemed to be some unanimity of opinion regarding pasting pockets and book plates and date slips in the front of the book. Only 7 out of 48 libraries still placed them in the back of the book.

When we looked at the lettering, we found that libraries were very particular about this detail, using anywhere from one to three inches. Some of them even specified 2 1/4 or 2 3/4 inches! Putting the price on the book card was about even - 21 did and 27 did not. Some lettered on the jackets, some on the back, some did both, some did neither. It is evident to anyone who wants to study this wide-open field of coordination that one of the requirements of successful cooperation is the give-and-take angle.

More than one library partnership has split up over such questions as "Should we or should we not use Cutter numbers," as Mrs. Currier, formerly of the State of Washington and now director of the Mississippi Library Commission remarked, "That is attaching an importance to Cutter which I doubt he himself would have defended."

And how violant these reactions can become when a library switches from back to front pocketing was demonstrated not too long ago when a librarian received a telephone call from a bookmobile driver, whose irate, [illegible]-laden voice announced, "I just want to tell you that I'm tearing the new pockets out of the front of the book and putting them in the back as fast as I get the new books. That switch causes too much trouble". He finally relented when he observed a demonstration of the motion study involved, and noticed how much easier front pocketing was for the patrons.

Perhaps an impartial jury could be selected some day to go into these details, such as the need for writing the source in each book, to verify how much better the service to patrons is when a book is "sourced", or conversely, what the patron loses when this extra step in processing is omitted. If we always keep in mind that the sole purpose of cooperation is to improve service, then many of these irksome problems will be recognized for what they are - temporary difficulties.

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In any such change brought about by coordination, it is well always to keep in mind that "the future of every institution is longer than its past", and within a five year period or less, changes are forgotten and the new becomes commonplace. Only those who are fearful of change will be fearful of cooperating and coordinating.

How much better service can become through cooperation is being proved in various parts of the country today. It is cooperation that has made the PNBC in Seattle possible, as well as the Rocky Mountain Center in Denver. Because of its long history of successful cooperation the PNLA was able to obtain its latest grant of $60,000. And it is a willingness to cooperate that is bringing better library service to the people of our progressive southeastern state, North Carolina. This North Carolina plan is more than an interlibrary loan plan in which each library agrees to lend its books to others. It was agreed that each municipal, county and multi-county library was responsible for serving all the needs of readers within its tax area. It was further agreed that the NCLC resources supplement those of county libraries and that the Library Commission could serve advantageously as the clearing house for the public libraries of the state. All interlibrary loan requests are channeled through the Library Commission so that expressed needs and available materials within the state can be constantly observed and balanced as far as possible.

In the first year of the project, seven librarians signed a special agreement to build a collection in a subject area in which there had been statewide demand. By 1954 the number of special collections had grown to 11. Each of these libraries had agreed to make the materials in the special interlibrary loan collections available to all public libraries in the state, and the Library Commission allocated from the State Aid Fund amounts ranging from $200 to 750 a year, depedning on the cost of establishing and maintaining each collection. Subjects in which the various libraries are doing specialized buying include architecture, minerals and mineral industries, textiles, including weaving and dying, chemistry and design, family life and home, citizenship and government, business and industry, and others. These are all trends in cooperation.

On a local level the county libraries in Northern California, where distances are great and weather and mountains often interfere, have joined together in a cooperative book selection project, meeting several times a year to discuss new books to be purchased and who will buy them. And if I'm not mistaken there was some talk of building mutually helpful book collections here in the northwest back in the early 1940's when I was State Librarian of Washington, so that the trend toward cooperation may sound to some like the story of the itinerant preacher's mule. After using the same mule to carry the Gospel to his mountain communities for many years, the preacher complained to his deacon one day that the mule was old - mighty old. "Looks to me like it could be the mule the Lord Jesus used when he rode into Jerusalem." Unabashed, the deacon shot back, "Yep, the very same one." So some of you may think we are harping on the same theme interminably. Yet how very different the whole field of cooperation looks when seen from the modern angle of service! Some time ago we were sitting in on a conference at which the subject concerned the integration of a small, poorly supported local library into a larger library system. As the librarian and board listened, you could almost feel the atmosphere changing from one of fear, distrust and even downright antagonism to a more relaxed attitude of willingness to cooperate.

Finally the spokesman for the group brought out the stumbling blocks that had lain in the path of cooperation for many years. "The last time we discussed this matter years ago," he said, "we were told that we would have to give up our books and our building if we joined the X library. Now we see that won't be necessary." More than that, the fact was brought out that the existing library board could continue to make significant contributions in the community, even after the local library had joined the larger library system. Best of all, I can report that both the library board and the librarian are now happy over

HAVE YOU PAID
?? YOUR DUES ??

their membership in the larger library system, not to mention the readers who no longer have to look at the same old books, month after month, year after year, but get their share of fresh, readable material from the general book pool. All of you would have been encouraged by that story of improved service through cooperation.

If cooperation is a good thing for our library patrons, what have been the hindrances to such cooperation and why have we been so slow to adopt practices and policies which will give our readers more for their money.

In some states antiquated library laws have been a real hindrance. If multi-county organizations were forbidden in other fields, they were also forbidden in library organization in such states as Ohio, for instance. Sometimes the laws were so interpreted that if library service by contract was not expressly mentioned, it was thereby forbidden. One by one our states are getting rid of such legal handicaps, promoting the establishment of larger library systems through better laws and financial grants or demonstrations.

Another hindrance that is even greater than our antiquated tax laws is our inability to tax evenly over a large area. For all our political acumen, the science of government has still not come up with an easily workable arrangement whereby an area can be taxed according to need and use. Yet multi-county libraries do exist and continue to grow stronger even within the framework of our existing laws, simply because people WANT to make the laws of contracts work.

A third serious hindrance is ignorance. For fifty or more years librarians have preached the gospel of self-sufficiency in the matter of library service, so it is hardly surprising that our citizens, our governing and taxing bodies should be somewhat surprised at this new trend toward cooperation. As one librarian wrote us not long ago: "You would be surprised at the reception the multi-county library idea got. One of the councilmen told me it was pure Socialism." She plaintively added the question: "Is it?" In another instance a board member detected a trend toward Federal control under the guide of multi-county cooperation. Perhaps you can add other examples of this type of misinformation.

Yet we cannot shirk carrying out a constant campaign of enlightenment such as outlined by Mr. McKaig. Politicians, the man in the street, newspapers, radio personnel - we must buttonhole them all like the Ancient Mariner and tell them our story. How can our users and supporters know the advantages of getting together, in interdependence instead of "unsplendid" isolation, if we don't tell them? They will never know if we, as Mrs. Currier says, run around wringing our hands in hopeless despair, saying to the layman, "You don't want a multi-county library, do you? You will lose your identity, won't you, if you join your library with another one, and you wouldn't want to do that, would you?" Mrs. Currier suggests that in dealing with laymen we may well use the technique General Motors uses when building a new car (We've seen a great deal of that this Spring.) The salesmen are very busy showing off the new car, telling people how badly they want that new car. Business men especially will be impressed when they learn that librarians and trustees do look upon library service not only from the cultural angle but also from the dollars and cents angle. There is no need to crawl in a hole, after demanding a businesslike salary for businesslike performance in cooperation, IF we take the trouble to help our citizens to understand modern library service.

The last hindrance is the most serious of all - we ourselves. There are those to whom cooperation comes easily. They enjoy working with and for each other. They can see the far objective and see it whole. There is the new multi-county library in the Texas Panhandle, for example, where the county librarian retired. Before leaving, she advised her library board to make a contract with the neighboring county for the services of the trained librarian there. And that librarian was very wise, when the contract was made. She used the unorthodox methods advocated by Mr. McKaig. She left the two county libraries as they were, not disturbing the internal workings in either. This was done to break down local pride gradually, but also with the hope of eventually bringing the two together. After little more than a

year the commissioners gave permission for centralized cataloging and processing, and the wise librarian set up a strong catalog department for the multi-county library. She was content to start where the two counties were and work from there.

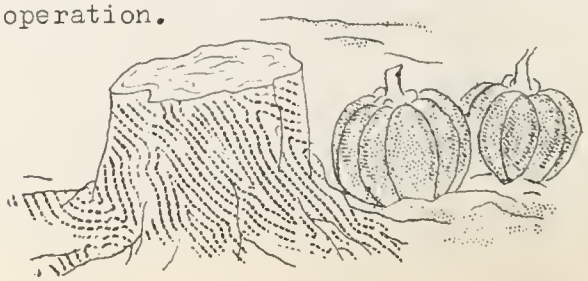
Then there is the story of the multi-county library where the bankers were very upset when it became known that the money would be withdrawn from three banks and placed into one when the four county libraries got together. So - it was agreed to move the bank account annually! What are a few bank accounts, a few more signatures on a few more deposit slips if through wholehearted cooperation the PEOPLE, the men, women and children in that area can get more and better books to read. And every trustee and every librarian ought to have the pleasure, once in a lifetime, of hearing a banker say "Those librarians They are one outfit that do what they say they are going to. They've been working on this cooperative library business with a sense of well-meaning to all of us." That's what the banker said!

For many of us cooperation has so far been merely something to talk about, think about, but not carry out. There is the significant story of the librarian in the TVA area who was asked some twenty years ago to become the head of a center for extended service. She came to talk to Miss Rothrock. Finally she made up her mind. "No, I don't think I want to do this. I have my board where I want it now. I have my library the way I want it, and I don't think I want to be bothered." Listen to that again. I have my board where I want it. I have my library the way I want it, and I don't think I want to be bothered". Greater service for her own readers, greater opportunities for progressional growth, greater satisfactions, as well as the headaches connected with a stronger library system held no appeal. The lady was selfish. The lady was satisfied.

Luckily this type is dying out. We are beginning to realize that perfectionist librarians have as hard a time today as perfectionists in any other field. We can't wait until everything is shipshape to start cooperating for improved service. We can't in an imperfect world, expect a perfect, smoothly functioning library system.

No doubt there will always be some in every meeting at which cooperation is discussed who will return home with a sigh of relief, saying "I'm glad I don't have to worry about that." As trustees and librarians they will return to their home libraries, sometimes with two or more libraries in the same town, the same county or several counties, unmindful of what their next door neighbor is doing. They will continue to be blindly and selfishly unmindful of the moral responsibility inherent in a public trust, in handling public funds so that they may be used to the widest and best advantage of those to whom those funds actually belong. They will be perfectly happy in deciding whether to paint the teen-age corner chocolate brown or a daring orange and chartreuse, or whether to buy medioum or heavy weight catalog cards. Not that those items are entirely unimportant. It is their relative importance which matters.

Much more significant and more forceful will be the general contributions of those who will make the trend toward cooperation become a reality in order to bring better books and library service in all of its modern aspects to the people of Montana, the people of Alabama and across the land. Patience and perseverance in working toward that larger goal will be required and that you have it here in this state has been amply demonstrated. You have that very strong faith that cooperation pays off in the long run. We are not alone in this any longer, since we know that library progress today, as well as world peace depends not on "going it alone", and not on the hermit who may set up a perfect system, be it government or library service. Today we have before us the continuing example of the almost limitless patience required of top-flight diplomats as seen in our day-by-day, month-by-month, year-by-year conferences on world peace projects. How much more ought we then to strive toward the more rewarding, peaceful, fruitful objectives of improving library service through cooperation.



AMONG FRIENDS

This column will be sort of a crazy quilt, no particular pattern, but supposed to have color and maybe warmth.

During October three local groups of Friends of the Library have formed: one at Columbus, one at Big Timber and the third at Cut Bank. All followed the Hill County Plan of not forming a new organization, but having representatives from already functioning groups cooperate to support the libraries. The organizations represented in each case include service clubs, federated womens' clubs, PTA's and home demonstration clubs. These representatives meet with their local librarians, determine the needs of the libraries, and take back this information to their various groups. For example, Stillwater's crying need is a new bookmobile. Their present one is on its last legs or rather wheels.

I understand that Plains is planning to start a Friends' group. Should you learn of other communities making plans, please let me know. I may be able to help them with organizational matters and program plans.

In regard to Friends' dues, the MSLA has ruled that for individuals who are interested in only local promotion, his or her dues would be 50 cents. For organizations affiliating, for example a service club, the minimum dues would be $2. Then for individuals wishing to be associate members of MSLA so that they may enjoy all privileges of the MSLA (except the vote), their dues should remain $1. This latter type should send their dues to Mrs. Clare M. Smith, Carnegie Public Library, Miles City. We trust there will be as many of the latter as of the other two catagories since the Friends can do much at the State level also.

It is interesting to learn that the Federated Women's Clubs are thinking along the same lines that we Friends are. They recently circularized their membership with a "Know-Your-Library" sheet, urging them to form Friends-of-the-Library groups. Further they reminded them, "share leadership, publicity and enthusiams with all other groups working with us."

Friends are ever mindful of the splendid service of the Montana State Library Extension Commission located at Missoula. We are glad to welcome Mrs. Catherine S. Chadwick who is to assist Miss Ellen Torgrimson with field work for the Commission. The Commission is equally grateful to the Friends for their part in obtaining appropriations for the Commission in the last Legislative session. However, the Commission is still cramped for lack of funds to provide adequate service for this state of magnificent distances. For this reason all Friends should interest themselves in the "Library Services Bill" which comes before the next Congress. It has been favorably acted upon by the House Committee on Education and Labor, but it still must pass both House and Senate. This column lacks space to give all the details of the bill. However, we can say that in event of its passage, this state would receive $40,000 annually for 5 years, if funds are state matched, for library services, salaries and books. Information about the Bill and the committee hearing is contained in the Wilson Library Bulletin. If your librarian

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does not have this last issue, I will gladly furnish you with the information. It seems to me that it would be an excellent idea for every Friend to write his or her senators and representatives, telling them how the passage of the Bill would definitely benefit Montana.

1955 PNLA CONFERENCE

The Pacific Northwest Library Association held its forth-fifth annual conference at Gearhart-by-the-Sea, Oregon, August 29, 30, & 31, 1955. Gearhart---about 75 miles from Portland---is a vacation resort, located on the Pacific Ocean.

Highlighting the Conference were two national library association presidents---John S. Richards of the American Library Association and Willard E. Ireland of the Canadian Library Association. PNLA is justly proud of having two national association presidents as members. The ALA headquarters was represented by Eleanor Phinney, Research Assistant, ALA Office for Adult Education and Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, Executive Secretary, ALA Division of Cataloging and Classification. Miss Phinney gave expert assistance at the pre-conference workshop planned by the Adult Education Committee and entitled "Planning a Workshop on Community Study." Mrs. Mahoney's contributions to the Catalog Division's discussions of catalog code revision were invaluable. Especially helpful was the Library publicity workshop, as librarians participating gave practical demonstrations of ideas for poster planning and production. A symposium entitled "Personnel procedures with special reference to Clerical staff" included useful hints for interviewing and judging the applicant and training the new staff member. The panel discussion "Reference service in smaller libraries" suggested ways of improving this service in the smaller library.

Mr. Ralph T. Esterquest, Director, The Midwest Inter-Library Center, Chicago, and the Honorable Richard L. Neuberger, U.S. Senator from Oregon, and Rabbi Julius J. Nodel, Temple Beth Israel, Portland were distinguished guests and speakers at the Conference.

An outstanding program feature was the opportunity for librarians and jobbers to exchange information as representatives of the J. K. Gill Company, Puget Sound News Company, Doubleday & Company, and others appeared on a panel entitled "Design in Cooperation."

High Point news in the PNLA the past year was the announcement of the Ford Foundation Grant of $60,000.00 to the PNLA Library Development Committee, William H. Carlson, Chairman. The grant will implement a study of the Library situation in the Pacific Northwest, which will cover all libraries, and present a detailed picture of library facilities and needs of all kinds. Emphasis will be placed throughout the study on public libraries, and particularly on those parts of our region which are now entirely without free library facilities, or having, are still very poorly served.

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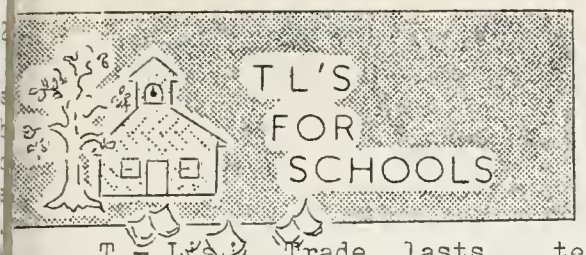

T - L's Trade lasts, teacher-librarians, or both! At any rate, we hope this will be a column where the teacher-librarians of Montana can trade their aids.

Last spring in Miles City we had two lively sessions on cooperation between public and school librarians. While we did not have many school people there, the discussions were stimulating and I'm sure that the public librarians went home with an awareness of schools and our responsibility to work together.

We are lucky because we have two such fine supporters in Mrs. Winnafern Moore and Bill Kind of the State Department of Public Instruction. They are both sold on the value of school libraries.

Our schools are small, our budgets are minute! But that only means a greater challenge. Every penny spent must be well spent. Libraries must be organized without the teacher-librarian being drowned in clerical work. We catalog to bring "like" materials together and to make it easier for all to locate needed materials. Our most important job is still to bring BOOKS and CHILDREN and TEACHERS together. If we remember this, we can show our value to more administrators.

* * * * * * * *

I just received Books To Build On. It has reprints of basic booklists for elementary, junior, and senior high school libraries as they were printed in Junior Libraries. There are also several other good articles on how you may help stretch your school library dollar. A good buy! (Send 50¢ in cash to the Library Journal.)

Also, if you are not receiving Junior Libraries as a section of the Library Journal, subscribe for it. Junior Libraries alone is only $2.50 a year and the money is well spent..

One of our summer classes considered a problem of many schools that are also used as community centers. We were disturbed to see locked bookcases. Books need to be seen to be remembered, to be read, and to be enjoyed. Why not have TWO identical bookcases on casters? They can be rolled together and locked for those difficult evenings. If the backs of the cases are fixed as bulletin boards they can be used as room dividers. Write to me at Montana State College for the details.

* * * * * * * *

Have trouble getting call number on spines? The iron and tape are wonderful but it takes someone wonderful to handle it. We think we may have a workable idea for school libraries and we are trying it on our Junior Collection. True, it is bending back to old times but with new materials. Type the call numbers on thin paper. We are using colored slips. (Blue for fiction, yellow for non-fiction, etc.) You might want to use assorted colors and save one to identify the books suitable for retarded readers. Glue on the spine with plastic and put two or more coatings over it. As a time saver, students could do this job for you. The numbers are clear, easy to read, and uniform!

* * * * * * * *

Remember! Send in your T-L's. We all need your ideas.

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Miss Ellen Torgrimson, on leave from her duties as secretary of the Library Extension Commission, reports from Urbana, Illinois, where she is working toward a Master's degree in library science that she has a very busy time with her classes.

FROM THE 1953-55 BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR OF MONTANA:

In Montana only 27 counties have established county libraries, and many of these cannot support adequate library service because of their low taxable valuations. One county has no public library within its borders; in other counties the rural population does not have access to any public library service. These are the areas which the Library Commission primarily is designed to serve. Each year more and more people become aware of the services offered by the Commission and take advantage of them. That the service is appreciated is evidenced almost daily by the grateful letters which come in from patrons all over the state. Their appreciation was graphically demonstrated during the 1955 Legislative Assembly. Appealed to for help in securing an increased appropriation, library friends and patrons throughout the state responded with a flood of letters to Legislators telling of the pleasure and benefits from the books sent out from the Commission library.

During the 1953-1954 fiscal year, the Library Commission shipped 29,393 books; during the year ended June 30, 1955, it shipped 32,814 books. It is impossible to estimate how many people have enjoyed these books, because libraries and schools are permitted to circulate the collections for three months or longer, and books loaned to individuals may be read by other members of the family or passed on to friends before being returned.

Spot announcements have been prepared and delivered to 15 radio stations in Montana by the Extension service. The announcements publicize local events and other subjects of local interest related to libraries.....The service will have to be interrupted during the rest of October while the Commission Library is moving to other quarters on the campus, but will be taken up again for libraries desiring it.....if you have access to a radio station and would like to hear spot announcements regarding the library's services to communities, write the Commission your ideas.....Miss Kathleen Campbell, Chairman of the Extension Commission has appointed a committee to service as advisors to the Commission in planning the pattern of use of federal funds, if they become available through the Library Services Act. Invited to serve on the committee are Mrs. Ruth Longworth, past president of the MSLA, Mrs. Catherine Chadwick, Library Consultant of MSEC, Miss Lesley Heathcote, Librarian of Montana State College, and Miss Virginia Walton, president of MSLA and the chairman of the Library Development Committee of MSLA. Miss Campbell will act as consultant to the committee.....Mrs. Chadwick attended a meeting of the Survey Committee of the Whitefish-Carnegie Public Library, Flathead County Public Library group October 6. The meeting was called to discuss possibilities of eventual unification of the three systems in that area. Present at the meeting were representatives of city and county library boards and the press. The main discussion centered on the question of how better library service could be given to the county areas north of Whitefish, not a part of the Whitefish city system. Methods of voluntary unofficial cooperation were discussed, and it was suggested that Mrs. Chadwick prepare some figures on the costs of the unified systems as compared with those of several individual systems.....Columbia Falls representatives reported that their new building, a gift of the Anaconda Company, is to be set on a foundation provided by the community, and that service will begin soon with a collection of books from Flathead County Library.

PATRONIZE MLQ ADVERTISERS

KNOW YOUR LIBRARY MONTH

Inez Ratekin Herrig, Chairman
Library Division
General Federation of Women's Clubs

Having been requested to write a "rousing appeal" for participation by Montana libraries in KNOW YOUR LIBRARY MONTH this November, it behooves me to at least present the KNOW AND GROW program idea which I, with the valuable assistance of Janice Kee and Mildred Batchelder, prepared for this two-year administration period of our clubs.

There are many communities and cities where excellent library service is available but not used up to its capacity. Many of our fine citizens take it for granted without a direct personal interest in using the facilities offered. Sometimes it is simply because our modern life has so many competitive interests but sometimes it is because we, as librarians, have not used the available resources at hand in the publicity field to attract attention and interest.

There are still many areas where the library service is most inadequate, to say the least, or even non-existent. In those places the people need to be made aware of what is possible and if a desire is created our citizens have a way of obtaining what is mutually wanted.

By setting aside November as KNOW YOUR LIBRARY MONTH we have American Education Week and Book Week to aid us and add stimulus to the program. The clubs have been sent a suggestion sheet as to possible ways to cooperate with a library in observing the month. This sheet carries many ideas of what might be done IN COOPERATION WITH THE librarian and staff. The fact is stressed that the whole project must be in close touch WITH the library.

In some cases clubs have been a little hesitant and in some cases a little indifferent to the program, being interested in other projects at the time. So, may I ask that you, as librarians, contact your club workers, if they haven't contacted you and plan a day, a week, or even a whole month observance? Mrs. Schenk warned us about living in "splendid isolation" and perhaps what is needed is the librarians' initiative and the showing of a warm welcome to service organizations who are trying to help the library become more of an integral part of the community.

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Forty-second Annual Meeting
Miles City May 6-7, 1955
Proceedings, Part I

"Congregate, Cooperate, Coordinate" was the theme of the Forty-second annual meeting of the Montana State Library Association, borrowed by President Ruth Longworth from the 1954 ALA Extension Workshop which she had attended at Minneapolis the preceding June. The librarians and trustees of the Miles City area were hosts to the meeting. This was most pleasing to a number of Association members who for some time had been hoping for a regular annual meeting in the Eastern part of our wide state. Even more pleasing was the fact that some ninety librarians and friends attended the meeting, a number of whom came from such "far-west" points as Libby, Whitefish, Kalispell and Missoula.

The first general session was opened by President Longworth at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 6 at the Elks Home which had been made available as a meeting place for all regular sessions through the courtesy of the Miles City chapter of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks. The Reverend Eric Wright gave the invocation. President Longworth extended a welcome to guests and new members and thanked all who had helped to make the year one of gratifying accomplishment. Among guests to whom she extended a special welcome were:

David E. Clift, Executive Secretary of the ALA, Chicago
Mrs. Gretchen K. Schenk, Summerdale, Ala. Library Consultant and former Washington State Librarian
Mrs. Leo Graybill, MSLC Board Member and Trustee of the Public Library, Great Falls.
Mrs. Winnafern Moore, Supervisor of Elementary Education, Helena
Mrs. Evon Narestud & Mrs. Clarence Wehr Rudyard, Montana. President and Secretary of the Hill County Friends of the Library Group
Mrs. J. D. Scanlon, Trustee of the Carnegie Public Library, Miles City
Miss Amy Wold, Family Life Specialist, Montana State Agricultural Extension Service, Bozeman
Miss Harriette Cushman, Recently retired from Montana State Agricultural Extension Service, Bozeman
Mrs. Laura Jane Taft, County Superintendant of Schools, Cut Bank

Mrs. Longworth mentioned as outstanding events of the year: first, the successful culmination of the Association's legislative program which in large part was due to the far-seeing and ambitious planning of the Legislative and Publicity Committees; and second, the increase in our associate membership to a point where "our friends and trustee members" numbered over one hundred, an accomplishment for which Perl Coombs, as sub-chairman of the Membership Committee, was largely responsible. Mrs. Longworth gave it as her opinion that the year should be remembered as the "year of letters". Letters had poured from Mrs. Coombs' Committee to our friends and potential friends all over the state and from these friends they had poured into the Legislature; in fact it had seemed as if the bulk of this correspondence must be sufficient to convert some of Montana's second class post offices into first class ones.

Correspondence was read by the Secretary, Rita McDonald, including greetings from L. Quincy Mumford, President ALA and Clare Smith reported receipts for the year of $677.01, expenditures of $165.72 and a balance of $511.29. As chairman of the Membership Committee, she announced that to date the Association had 108 professional and 111 associate members.

President Longworth then called attention to the mimeographed copies of the reports of standing committees that had been distributed to those present and asked for any additional comment by committee chairmen.

As chairman of the Legislative Committee, Kathleen Campbell paid tribute to the splendid cooperation of the two lay members of her committee, Mrs. Leo C. Graybill and Mr. E. G. Toomey. She added that Mr. Toomey had sent greetings and regrets that a case before the Supreme Court prevented him from attending the meeting at Miles City. Miss Campbell also took this occasion to informally report on a legislative bill that had been sponsored by a group of people in and around Whitefish who were seeking better library service for their community. This bill, which did not get out of committee, has as its purpose the authorizing of library districts that could be larger than a municipality but smaller than a county. As representative of the State Library Commission, Miss Campbell had gone to Whitefish to consult with the bill's sponsors and to explain why most people interested in promoting extended library

service were in favor of larger rather than smaller units of service. She found the Whitefish people very desirous of help in securing the optimum of service and she expressed the hope that before the next state Legislature convenes the Commission's field librarian and the Flathead county librarian can work together with these people to find a satisfactory solution for their problem.

Lesley Heathcote, chairman of the Publicity Committee, called attention to the fact that her Committee had suggested that future radio programs should be made locally rather than as a state project. She also directed attention to that portion of her Committee's report that dealt with the Association's cooperation in the rural reading program and with the role played by the State Agricultural Extension Service and the Home Demonstration Clubs in promoting reading and supporting the library development program. She expressed appreciation of the diligence of Miss Amy Wold in interesting our rural people in reading and in libraries and of the helpfulness of Miss Harriette Cushman, an ex-member of the Extension Service who has always been a firm friend of the libraries of Montana. Miss Heathcote added that she had been asked by Mr. Bert Hanson of Montana State University to remind the membership of the Association that this year we are celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Mr. Hanson solicited the help of the librarians in promoting publicity for the celebration and in drawing attention to library resources for the study of this important event in our state history.

Merwin Moores, chairman of the Scholarship Committee, called attention to the fact that in the report of his Committee, specific recommendations had been kept to a minimum, leaving certain details to be decided upon by the membership. The Committee had recommended that the amount of the scholarship be not less than $200 but had not specified the exact amount and it had selected only what it thought were the most basic eligibility requirements for candidates, omitting, among other suggestions, one that the applicant be a graduate of a Montana institution. He asked for discussion of the report. A suggestion was made that it be required of the applicant that if chosen for the scholarship he or she should agree to return to Montana and work in the field of librarianship for at least two years, rather than one, since the first year of service was often very much in the nature of in-service training and Montana would get little return for its investment until the second year. It was also suggested that we would feel more free to ask the applicant to return for two years if our fund was somewhat larger than $200. Thereupon Mr. Moores moved that the Association should annually set aside a certain amount for scholarship purposes, depending upon the balance in the Treasury, and when the fund was deemed to be adequate the Association should then vote to give a scholarship. The motion was seconded and carried. Miss Heathcote suggested that personal contributions to this fund should be acceptable.

Evelyn Swant reported that the Library Development Committee had done no further work on the survey of Montana libraries, Kathleen Campbell told the membership that it was now certain that the Ford Foundation was making a grant of $60,000 for carrying on the work of the Pacific Northwest Library Association Library Development Committee and an official announcement to this effect would soon be made.

Rita McDonald reported on the work of the Montana Authors Committee for Catherine White who could not be present. The Committee solicited the help of the membership in selecting Montana authors to be included in the biographical volume to be published by P.N.L.A. Rita urged all present to send a suggestive list of twenty-five living Montana authors to Miss White immediately upon their return to their libraries. From these suggestions Miss White will compile a checklist to be sent to Montana librarians whereon they can indicate their preference and thus participate in the selection of Montana authors.

Ellen Torgrimson reiterated the desirability of having a union catalog for Montana libraries at the State Library Extension Commission's headquarters, as mentioned in her report, and she earnestly solicited librarians to send in cards for Lewis and Clark material on which a beginning has been made. As Federal Coordinator, Miss Torgrimson spoke of the need for support of the Library Services bill, which provides for matching federal funds to be allocated to the states to promote the extension and development of public library services to rural areas now without such service or with inadequate service. Consequently, on the mo-

tion of Kathleen Campbell, the secretary was instructed to send messages to its two Montana Legislative sponsors and to members of the sub-committee of the House Committee on Education and Public Welfare soliciting their aggressive and continued interest in the bill.

As Montana's P.N.L.A. representative, Alma Jacobs called upon Montana librarians to become members of P.N.L.A. and suggested they could ascertain the amount of their dues from Margaret Hileman, P.N.L.A. membership chairman. Lesley Heathcote announced that Bozeman was extending an invitation to P.N.L.A. to make Bozeman its meeting place for 1957.

As Montana representative on the A.L.A. membership committee, Rita McDonald urged that more Montana libraries support the national association by taking out memberships. She pointed out the great help that A.L.A. has extended to our Association and to Montana library development during the last few years.

Virginia Walton read the report of the Nominating Committee for its chairman, Mabel Miller, who was having voice trouble and subsequently the election of the following officers was announced:

Vice-President and President Elect:
Mrs. Marjorie Moores
Hill County Library

Treasurer:
Mrs. Clare Smith
Miles City Public Library

Secretary:
Mrs. Martha Hassell
Veterans' Administration Center
Fort Harrison

The 1954-1955 Vice President, Virginia Walton, automatically becomes President for the ensuing year.

President Longworth reported, under the heading of old business, that the Executive Board was still investigating the possibilities of securing a microfilm of the Great Falls Tribune index for distribution to libraries. So far the proposal had not met with a favorable reception by the Tribune publishers.

Lesley Heathcote moved that, in accordance with the amendment to the by-laws governing A.L.A. chapters that had been ratified by the A.L.A. membership on June 25, 1954, at Minneapolis, the Montana State Library Association apply for redesignation as a chapter of the American Library Association. The motion carried.

Elsie Ekegren renewed her plea for help from librarians in providing recreational reading matter for patients at Warm Springs by sending to her duplicates or other books that they do not want for their own libraries with the understanding that she would retain only what was suitable for her Hospital Library. She expressed her appreciation for a most gratifying response to the plea she had made at Helena last year. The Hospital Library opened last July with 3,000 volumes all donated. It still has 3,000 volumes but many of the older and less suitable volumes have been replaced by others. A large number of these volumes have come from librarians. Mrs. Ekegren is also helping, in so far as she is able, to provide reading matter for the State Prison at Deer Lodge.

Doris Wilson drew attention to the programs that had been provided by Hertzberg-New Method, Incorporated and introduced Irma Jarke, and Clare Smith drew attention to the displays of the exhibitors: Doubleday, H. R. Huntting, Bro-dart, and Colliers.

The meeting adjourned for a Coffee Hour given by the Board of Trustees and Staff of the Miles City Carnegie Public Library. Guests were delightfully entertained by Mildred Schosser's puppeteers and enjoyed the social hour that followed.

The Second Session convened the next morning at 9:00. The delegates received a cordial welcome to Miles City from the city's mayor, Honorable Farnham Denson, to which Merwin Moores made a gracious response.

President Longworth then presented Mrs. Gretchen Knief Schenk, former state librarian of our neighboring Pacific Northwest State of Washington and known throughout the library world of the United States and Canada for her practical articles on library problems, her column in the Wilson Library Bulletin and her work as a library consultant. In introducing the Association's distinguished guest, Mrs. Longworth announced that after attending the splendid A.L.A. annual meeting at Minneapolis the preceding June, she formed a determination to bring some part of it back to Montana. The most significant part, as far as Montana is concerned, was the Extension Workshop, from which we had borrowed our slogan and also Mrs. Schenk. Having Mrs. Schenk with us, Mrs. Longworth felt we could well afford to forego the rest.

Mrs. Schenk replied by commending the Association on its most efficient president. She said that ten months ago, on July 6th, she had received a letter from Mrs. Longworth asking if she would please come and talk to the Montana librarians at Miles City on the 6th of May, 1955. She had replied that Barkus was willing--indeed she was only too willing to talk some more about the 3 C's, "Congregate, Cooperate, Coordinate" and at the same time make a trip West.

. . . . . .

The full text of Mrs. Schenk's address appears elsewhere in the Montana Library Quarterly.

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The third session took the form of a luncheon meeting, in the Eagles Dining Room, arranged by the A Q Chapter of P.E.O. Decorations were provided by the Miles City Woman's Clubs; place cards were the handwork of Mrs. C. W. Miles; and Huffman folders were provided as favors by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Scott of Miles City. Virginia Walton, presiding, announced that we were indeed honored to have with us David H. Clift, the executive secretary of our national association, with whom some of those present may have become acquainted at A.L.A. meetings or at the Pacific Northwest Library Association meeting at Tacoma the preceding fall, but to most of whom he had hitherto been known through his writings in the A.L.A. Bulletin and other library journals; and who would now give an address on the subject "Over the Rainbow".

Mr. Clift disclaimed responsibility for the fanciful title to his talk and stated that, prosaically speaking, he would make a few remarks on trends in library development and our responsibilities in connection therewith. He gave a brief review of the present situation in the American public library world, stressing the fact that there are still some 30,000,000 persons in the land without access to library service and many more with only inadequate facilities. There are about three thousand counties in the United States, and four hundred and sixty four, or one out of six, have no public library service. This is a situation which violates the American tradition of educational opportunity for all and is of vital concern to an age in which our most pressing need is a vital and informed citizenry. If the free public library is to remain an important factor in citizenship training and education for all the people in all parts of the country, there must be increased local support and interest, plus a recognition that the states need the equalizing interest and support of the federal government. The library profession has put itself on record in favor of federal aid to education and it has striven hard to bring about a plan and funds for the improvement of rural library service on a national basis. This plan is embodied in the Library Services Bill now before Congress which merits the agressive support of every one interested in the extension of library service and of free access to books and information, a basic requirement for an informed citizenry. To meet the challenge of this plan, existing library service will have to be improved and such improvement must in great part come about through the continuing establishment of larger units of service.

Mr. Clift also pointed out that above and beyond the responsibility of providing reading matter for all citizens, the librarian has a further responsibility to see that citizens' rights to read books on all subjects and dealing with all sides of all questions are not abrogated. In today's swiftly changing world a general feeling of insecurity coupled with the compulsions of the present cold war has resulted in a fear of ideas and an attack against the American tradition of non-conformity. We are increasingly being told by arbiters of thought and patriotism that if we think differently from them we are un-American and there is something wrong with our love of country. The danger in this is that our people may become reluctant to express or hold views that may, for the moment, be unpopular; and, even more serious to our way of life, may fear to form opinions at all. This would be an end to democracy.

Librarians and educational institutions have not escaped the effects of this feeling of hysteria. Misguided in-

dividuals, private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country have sought to restrain the freedom to read and have sought to prevent libraries from providing, insofar as their resources permit, views on all sides of all questions. It is heartening that for the most part librarians have been able to stand up against such attacks. They have stated their convictions openly and forcefully in the Library Bill of Rights and in the Freedom to Read Statement; and individual librarians have fought valiantly in specific cases for the right of every citizen to have perfect freedom to examine all sides of all questions and to make up their minds without fear. Librarians can feel a deep pride in the forthright and courageous position they have taken on the issues of censorship and intellectual freedom but they need to be eternally vigilant that there is no faltering in their stand. This is as essential, if not more essential, to library development than efforts to provide facilities for expanded library service.

The fifth session was a banquet meeting at the Crossroads, with Dr. E. H. Rowen, Chairman of the Miles City Carnegie Board, presiding. Place cards had again been made by Mrs. C. W. Miles and booklets with reproductions of Huffman photographs were provided for guests at the banquet by Mr. and Mrs. Scott. Entertainment was furnished by Mr. Robert Crebo's string trio consisting of Mr. Crebo, Mrs. Carl Horn and Mrs. James P. Lucas who rendered several vocal solos. Everyone enjoyed the tasteful and beautifully rendered selections and also the good fellowship, and this session was counted a most pleasant ending to an inspiring but somewhat strenuous day.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Please send items for this column to Jean Todd, Parmly Billings Memorial Library)

Miss Donna Sambrooke of Vancouver, B. C. was recently appointed children's librarian at the Parmly Billings Memorial Library, Billings. Miss Sambrooke received her library training at the Fraser Valley Regional Library. As an accomplished musician and an experienced flyer she may find herself called upon to use both these skills in Montana.

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Warren Lussky has resigned from Rocky Mountain College to accept the position of Librarian at Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln.

****

The Parmley Billings Memorial Library is now a monthly guest on the TV program, "Yours sincerely, Billie", carried on channel 2, KOOK TV. This will be a tête-à-tête with Billie in which the librarians can describe services, books, or other topics relating to their work.

****

The Alberta Library Association has voted to affiliate with the Pacific Northwest Library Association, and plans are now underway to integrate this area. If the PNLA accepts Bozeman's invitation for 1957 that will be a good opportunity really to "integrate" Alberta. Meanwhile, when she was in Edmonton at the Alberta Library Association meeting last May, Lesley Heathcote invited those Albertans who could manage it, to attend the MSLA in Kalispell. In return Alberta has invited us to join them in Lethbridge the end of May. We shall keep you informed on dates. Let's plan now to visit Lethbridge in May.

****

The first week in November has been designated by the General Federation of Women's Clubs as "Know your Library" week and to help you the Public Relations Planner has gotten out a pamphlet full of excellent ideas. If you do not know this publication you would be interested in seeing it. It is full of public relations ideas geared to libraries and related to special occasions. It should be invaluable to the busy librarian. Write to the Public Relations Planner, Box 171, Tuckahoe, N.Y. for more information on this service.

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Alma Jacobs, Librarian of the Great Falls Public Library, is first vice-president and president-elect of the Pacific Northwest Library Association.

****

Mrs. Veris A. Sullivan is the new circulation librarian at Montana State College, succeeding Mrs. Phyllis S. Wollaston, who left to join her husband at Marana Air Base, Tucson. Mrs. Sullivan comes with a wealth of experience in the business world which she is turning to good account in the Library. She is working towards her Bachelor's degree and plans to enter library work as her profession.

Congratulations!!

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

IT IS OUR SINCERE WISH THAT THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NEW QUARTERLY WILL HELP US ALL TO SERVE OUR PROFESSION BETTER AND DRAW US ALL INTO A CLOSER BOND OF FELLOWSHIP.

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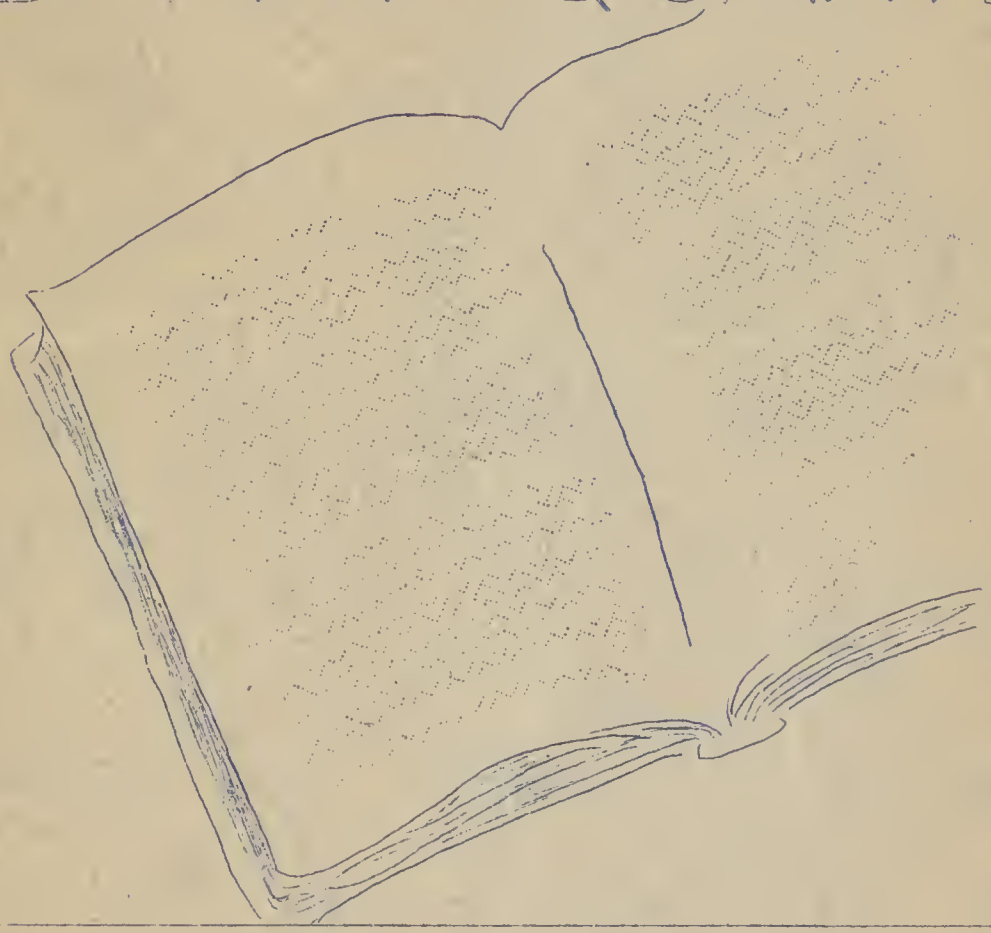
MONTANA

LIBRARY QUARTERLY



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Official Publication of the Montana State Library Association

Volume 1, No. 2 January 1956

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The Montana Library Quarterly is sent free to members of the Montana State Library Association. To all others the annual subscription is $1.50 payable to Mrs. Clare Smith, Public Library, Miles City, Montana

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Jean Todd, News
Parmly Billings Memorial Library

Lesley M. Heathcote, Chairman and Editor
Montana State College Library, Bozeman

Note: Last year, a group of Montana authors showed their appreciation of libraries by writing for the MSLA articles on books and libraries. These were sent to all the newspapers in the State but there was no way of telling how many printed them. These articles are so interesting and delightful that we are reprinting them in the Quarterly. The first one follows. ED.

LET'S GO TO THE LIBRARY

Naomi Lane Babson

When I was a child our village library was open only Saturday afternoons and evenings. And it would generally be after Saturday night baked beans and brown bread that my brother and I collected last week's books, and took the mile walk "over Schoolhouse Hill and down to the Cove" for a fresh load.

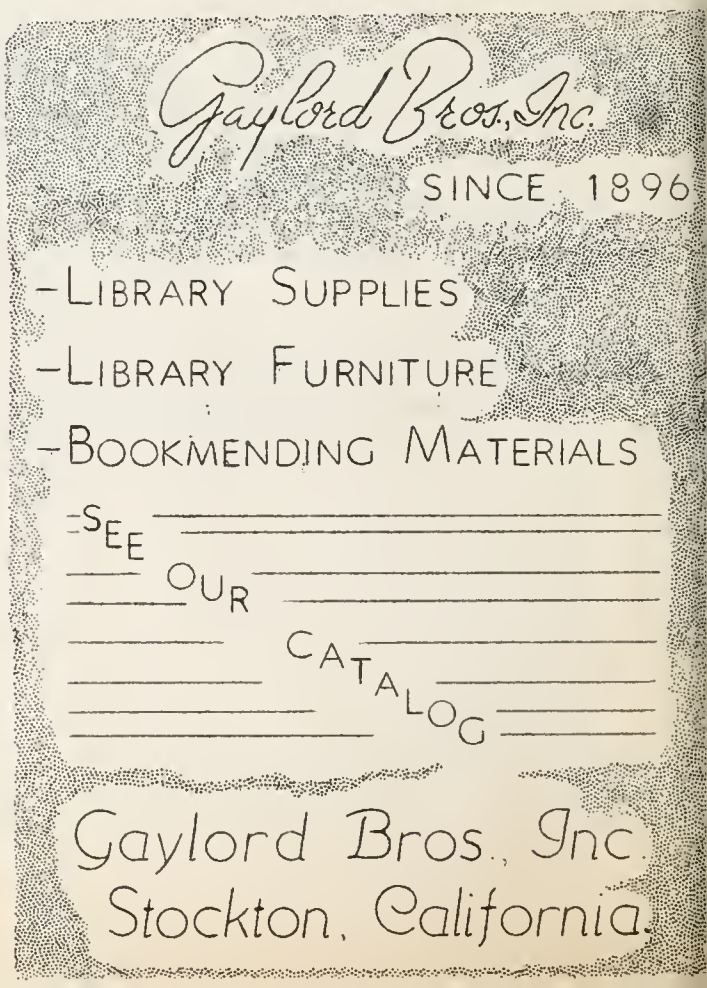
A limited and hit-or-miss collection awaited us, but it didn't seem so then. The horizon stretched a little wider, the sky arched higher after every library trip. I had progressed from Little Prudy books through Alcott, Mary P. Wells-Smith's (even today enchanting) stories of Old Deerfield, and G.A. Henty, to such still remembered titles as When Knighthood Was In Flower, or When Patty Went To College, before high school days made the Carnegie Library in town easily available.

Today, with movies, radio, television, and comic books on all sides, libraries may appear both less glamorous and less essential. But this is a false assumption, and the child deprived of a chance to read according to his individual interests has lost some part of the American heritage.

In the first place, reading implies a shared effort. Experience, knowledge, pleasure, adventure, are acquired from the printed page only by active and willing participation on the part of the reader.

And, secondly, movies, and other mass-appeal media cannot offer either to children or adults, a balanced diet. You won't find poetry on the screen, nor letters, nor delicate phantasy. Alice in Wonderland, or The Wind In the Willows are a great deal more than a Walter Disney production. Looking at pictures and listening to radio programs may be additions to, but not substitutes for reading.

In a big state like Montana, with its small population and scattered communities, library buildings may be hard come by. But modern facilities such as bookmobiles and our excellent Library Extension Service can make good books available anywhere. And there should be no Montana resident, child or grown-up, who can't say in effect: "Let's go to the Library."



AMONG FRIENDS

Harriette E. Cushman
State Chairman

You will receive this close enough to the first of January for me to wish you a Happy New Year and trust that it will really be a good year for all Friends of the Library.

This will be sort of a "go thou and do likewise" message. On November 30, I was guest at the first dinner meeting of the Glacier County Friends of the Library. It certainly was a huge success. I wish that all of you who have started a Friends Group or are contemplating one could have attended. There were over 150 people present. What was most interesting to me as I looked over the dinner group was that they were all alert progressive men and women of the Cut Bank community. They were certainly all of leader caliber. As one of the County Commissioners remarked who sat at the head table, "I didn't know the Library had so many friends, and friends of this sort."

The credit for the success of the splendid beginning certainly goes to Mrs. Ruth Longworth, the Glacier County Librarian, and a half dozen of her loyal supporters. I can't name them all, but it would be an omission if I did not mention Mr. Harold Nelson, the President and his wife, Mrs. Carmin Stufft, the able Treasurer, and Mrs. Helen West.

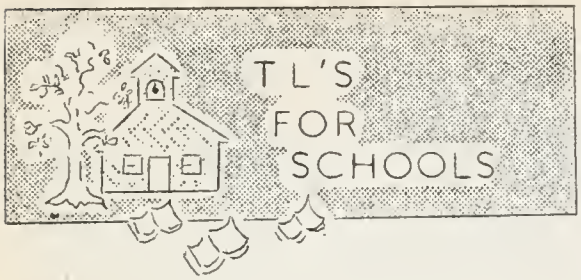
As has been suggested the Glacier County Friends group is made up of representatives of all the local organizations of the county, that is members chosen to represent service organizations and any other active group in the county. If you want to have the details of just how they went about it, it would be well to write to Mrs. Longworth. She certainly has the magic touch. But with lots of faith and hard work it could be achieved by any community.

Besides a good meal to put everyone in an excellent frame of mind, they had a good program, and not too long. Every speaker was limited to about 15 minutes.

The high light of the evening was Miss Margaret Scherf, the writer of mystery stories from Kalispell. Peggy has at least 18 published books to her credit and has a most clever way of speaking. She kept everyone in a gale of laughter. If you can't get Peggy for a banquet in your town, there are a number of famous authors in the state who are more than anxious to help out such a good cause.

Initial enthusiasm is perhaps the easiest part of getting a new organization started. The real job is to maintain interest. This the Glacier County group has planned. As stated before the various organizations of the County have representatives on the board of Friends of the Library. Once a month these representatives have a chance to give their own organizations a shot in the arm. In order that these persons will have proper amunition, the Friends have prepared brief concise paragraphs for the members to present to their own clubs about Library service and reading. For example, the November one was an explanation about Friends of the Library, urging everyone to become a member; in December the paragraphs concerned books which were available about Christmas cooking, gift wrapping, records of Christmas music and recorded Christmas stories which could be borrowed; then for January the theme is "Shall I buy, build or rent?" I am sure the Glacier County Library will be glad to furnish you with copies of these suggestions. I also have copies and will gladly copy the material for you.

One other matter which should be mentioned. The bill for "Federal Aid For Library Service In Rural Areas" comes up before Congress in the very near future. I have several copies of the Hearings of the bill for distribution. We earnestly hope that all the good friends who did such a masterful job in getting funds for our own state will acquaint themselves with this bill and write to our Montana Congressmen telling them why we feel it is important to have the bill passed. There is nothing like a deluge of letters to make up a Congressman's mind. Please get busy with this duty at once.



Eilene M. Morrison

"WHY DOESN'T JOHNNY READ?"
"WHY DON'T JOHNNY'S PARENTS READ?"

Parents who enjoy reading and share that enjoyment with their children will start a child on a lifetime habit of using books for pleasure and information. We, as teachers and librarians, have a responsibility to continue to make available books for such a child. Annis Duff's new book Longer Flight will be a good suggestion for parents interested in family reading. But many youngsters come to school with no experience with books (except the comics). For these individuals we must be both parent and teacher and open for them a vast area of pleasure. The right book for each child is vital. If we don't have it in the school library we must try the county library and the library extension service. Everywhere throughout his school experience he needs to find interesting books. Someday he will SEE them.

The challenge for creating a library room or corner can be intriguing to a teacher and her students. Often creating a library area from odds and ends is more satisfying to the youth than finding the finest library furniture installed for him. Where students have had a part in the creating, their interest in the library and the books it holds is already obtained. It might be the means of helping him SEE the books.

If your district has the money for fine furniture it is wonderful. If not, give most of us $25 and with the children's help we could make an attractive library corner. A small library room would require more but imagination helps. So, short of space and money? Need a table that can be removed when the space is temporarily needed? What's wrong with a card table plus a round folding top? Or an old oak dining table may be available in an attic of your community. (Table legs can be shortened for the younger groups. Sturdy unpainted chairs are quite inexpensive. Extra bookcases can be made from planks and bricks or pipes. Paint and energetic workers can do the rest. Use color on the tables, chairs, and bookcases but keep it gay yet dull. Use flat not glossy paint and avoid glare. Save money on the furniture and buy BOOKS.

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A new Children's Catalog will be published in the fall. Remind your county superintendent to budget for it. Several were going to order it along with other aids for the use of the smaller school staffs.

****

Talk over your purchasing with your county superintendent. If several schools put an order in together, it might mean a bigger discount. True, a few extra hours of work for a small committee will be required, but it would mean extra books for the children.

****

Need help selling your administrators on the SAVINGS made through buying catalog cards from H.W. Wilson? Make a chart showing how many cards must be typed for the average book. Make an identical chart using the Wilson cards. Estimate the time needed for each set and the cost involved in materials and time. The cards used alone will cost at least a fourth of the 8ø charged for a Wilson set. The savings of dollars and cents and TIME will impress your administrator and he will respond when he understands.

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If we could only have one item to use for mending books, I think we undoubtedly would vote for the new plastics put out by most library supply companies. (They now have convenient plastic bottles.) Solvent with water, they do everything! But if you have a COLD building during weekends, better bring out your summer insulated picnic bag or box to save the plastic from those chilling zero hours. It freezes and that destroys its value.

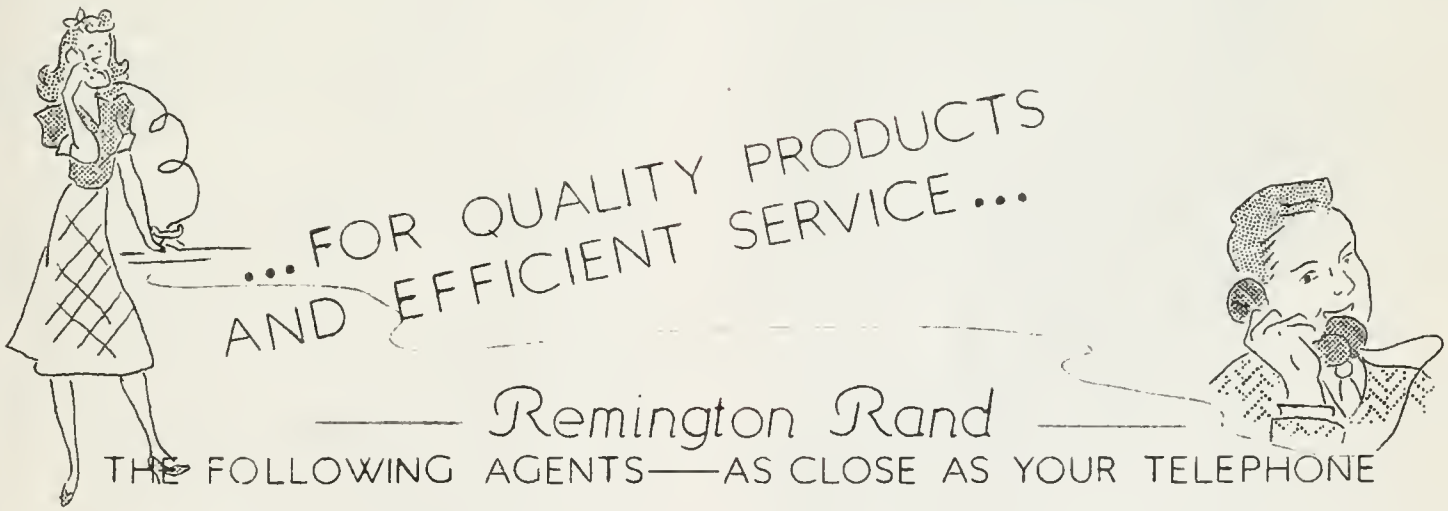
****

Teaching the use of the card catalog? Giant catalog cards may be purchased from several sources if you don't have the time and energy to letter a set. These make it so every student can soe and follow your explanations.

For the past two months the Library Extension Commission Library has been in the throes of moving from the old quarters in the University Library building to several rooms in the ASMU Building known to this generation as the State Correspondence Building, since the State Correspondence School has been housed here for some years. The University Library in its transition to open-stacks and a greatly augmented circulation area, needed to use Room 114 during the time that the upstairs would be cut off from the lower floors, and the Extension Library had to go.

The quarters now occupied are not so much smaller in dimensional measurements, but they are cut up in small segments so that actually we seem to be occupying about half the space we did in the University Library building. Arranging the furniture and books has required a great deal of planning and the results are, at best, a compromise. But the library is functioning again, after a month's frantic scrambling among stacks of books, boxes, and paint cans. We hope that everyone's patience has not been too much tried by this interval of upheaval.

Radio spot announcements will be resumed early in the month of January, and it is expected that a new service to newspapers will be initiated. The "filler" items sent are similar to spot announcements in that they are used to fill in spaces where the news stories do not quite fit. General information about Montana libraries will be used at first, but specific news items about the local community will be more appreciated and more used, so librarians, take note, and plan to send in some fillers to your local paper. Some samples will be shown in the next issue of MONTANA LIBRARIES



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Montana State Library Association
Forty-second Annual Meeting
Miles City May 6-7, 1955
Proceedings, Part II

Mrs. Schenk's talk was followed by a symposium on the subject of "Cooperation among Libraries, Friends and Trustees", with Mrs. Schenk as chairman. Other participants were David Clift, Mrs. Graybill, Harriette Cushman, Mrs. Scanlan and Perl Coombs.

Mr. Clift opened with the remark that in answering the question of how a library can get cooperation he was going to say a number of elementary things. In the first place there were two essential reasons for seeking cooperation: to give more fully of library services and, conversely, to get additional support for a program of better service. To secure full cooperation certain attitudes and activities are necessary on the part of librarians:

1. There must first be a desire to cooperate. The library staff must demonstrate out going and out giving characteristics. This must begin with the head librarian and be reflected in all the members of the staff. Mr. Clift suggested that, in the words of Emerson, "An institution is the length and shadow of one person."
2. Librarians must make themselves fully familiar with their communities. They must steep themselves in the community's problems, history, program and plans and then consider how their libraries can serve the community in light of this knowledge and understanding.
3. They must be devoted to spreading information about their libraries until the people of their communities become extremely knowledgeable of their libraries' services and the conditions under which such services are rendered. It is commonplace that the accomplishment of any program requires planning ahead--an understanding of where the program is leading and how it is going to get there and a recognition of the facilities that will be needed if it is to reach that goal. It is the latter that librarians must always be speaking about in order to get effective cooperation from governments of all sorts.
4. Lastly, librarians must have a positive plan of assistance to community programs. Their theme might well be: plan well, perambulate wisely, procrastinate never, persuade always.

Mrs. Scanlon spoke on the role of the library trustee in furthering cooperation. She began by giving a little personal history. Fourteen years ago, in 1941, M. S. L. A. met in Miles City. Up to that time she had been in the Library only to borrow books or to look up references. During the convention she had charge of transportation services, incidentally attended the meetings and became interested in the wider aspects of library service and its administration. The next year the mayor appointed her to a vacancy on the Board of Turstees and she has served ever since. She enumerated the responsibilities of trustees:

1. They should recognize that it is a civic honor to serve on the Library Board.
2. They should endeavor to give the best library service possible to a community for the amount of money appropriated.
3. They should educate the community to want better library service.
4. They should publicize library service.

She also mentioned general business experience and strong public-mindedness as the two most important qualifications of the good trustee. She added that it is the Board as a unit that holds the responsibility and powers and not the individual members and there should be the utmost trust and confidence between the Board and the library staff. It is the duty of the librarian to draw up a library program; it is the responsibility of the Board to decide whether that program should be executed. The raising of funds is distinctly a trustee's duty. In closing Mrs. Scanlon recommended for all trustees the examination of the American Library Association's Manual for Trustees.

In continuing the discussion of how trustees can cooperate with the Library

in furthering better service, Mrs. Graybill said she was going to throw out some seemingly contradictory ideas as to what type of person a trustee should be:

1. The trustee should be a good listener--a listener to the aims and ideas of the librarian and a listener to general discussion of trends that are pertinent to library problems. He should be a good listener to the public, finding out what representative people think of libraries and librarians and what they expect of the library and thus serving as a liason between the library and the public.

2. He should be a good speaker. He should speak to the librarian of things he has heard in the community; he should speak up in Board meetings; and he should speak up on behalf of the library groups and in meetings that he attends. When he hears criticism of the Library he should be prepared to answer it and to give reasons for the actions of Board and Library Staff that are being criticized.

3. He should be a saver. He should bring economic ideas to the Board and be a watch dog on the taxpayers money, ever careful that there is no tendency for the Board and Staff to think, because they are dealing with public money, that they can spend it thoughtlessly or wastefully.

4. He should be a spender. He should spend in order, in the long run, to better the library and should spend in order to bring new ideas into the administration of the library. He should also spend appreciation. He should be a spender of praise for the librarian, telling her of the good she is doing; and he should be a spender of praise for citizens of the community who have the intelligence to want, for their town, what good library service can give it and who have the agressiveness to make such service possible.

5. He should be old-fashioned in certain qualities of character as eternal as life itself. He should be scrupulously honest and utterly reliable in matters pertaining to the library, not saying one thing in Board meetings and another outside. He should be kind, unbiased and free to pettiness.

6. He should be modern--up-to-date on what is happening in the library world and modern in wanting his library to express new ideas. He should know that the library must be moving or else it will be left in the background. He should be aware of such standards as "That is the salary we used to pay so that is the salary we should pay now", or "That is the building we used to have so that is the building we should have now". He should realize that such old ideas as "If they want to read let them come to the library" and "Children should be educated when young, therefore there is no place for adult education" have been long out dated.

7. The Trustee should be public-spirited, willing to mingle with people of the community and sell the library to them. He should know that the library ought to reflect not just the ideas and enthusiams of its staff but also those of its board.

In closing Mrs. Graybill said that no one member of the Board can be all these things she mentioned but different members can reflect different aspects of them. Moreover members of the Board can learn from one another. One could well say that a library is just as good as its Board. Therefore we must be very careful in the selection of a Board of Trustees.

Miss Cushman stated that she had been asked to speak about organized Friends of the Library groups from the point of view of a lay friend. She expressed the

hope that Montana libraries would soon have more such organizations than they have now. These organizations can obviously serve a useful function. They can be a means of interpreting the wants of libraries to citizens and of interpreting the citizen's reading needs to those who are in a position to do something about them; they can play a large part in fostering the growth and development of local libraries; and they can aid in securing those extra facilities that help make libraries more personal and alive.

Miss Cushman pointed out, however, that in our state, as in any sparsely populated state, there are many small isolated libraries; many residents who read nothing other than the Montana Farmer-Stockman, a local paper, or the Montgomery-Ward and Sears-Roebuck catalogs; and many communities without libraries a number of which aren't even aware of the services of the Montana State Library Extension Commission. What we need, to better such conditions, is a "statewide" organization of Library Friends. The problem is where to get membership for such an organization. Montana has a small population for its size and in almost all of our towns demands are made over and over again on the time and energy of most of the public-spirited citizens.

Keeping this in mind, Miss Cushman suggested, it might prove helpful to look at what has been done in Hill County. The Friends there have worked through other organizations, especially through the Home Demonstration clubs. In the Home Demonstration set-up they have found a county-wide, live organization with clubs in all the communities that the County Library serves. The project leaders from these clubs form the nucleus of the Board of the Hill County Friends of the Library Association.

Taking this as a tip, it might be worth while for the M. S. L. A. Friends Committee to contact all going Montana organizations that are at all civic minded. There must be a lot of people interested in reading in all of them. From such organizations there might be secured project leaders or similar officers to form the nucleus for a statewide Friends of the Library Council. This could be a starting point. Simultaneously the Committee could strive to increase individual membership, organize local Friends Groups, and work through local organizations.

At this point Mrs. Schenk interposed to say that as librarians we cannot express ourselves warmly enough in appreciation of what the Agricultural Extension Service has done for library development all over the nation.

Perl Coombs concluded the symposium with a summary of what type of things state Friends Groups should strive to do. She stated that friends and trustees must first understand the importance of the library to community life. With that understanding, they should stand ready to assist established local libraries; they should find ways of interesting more groups in local library problems especially those connected with making more books and shelf space available; they should take steps to interest outstanding citizens to become, as board members, a really intelligent and aggressive force for library development; they should help with publicizing library services; and they should help in securing better budgets for libraries. They should give guidance to local groups who are trying to better library development in their communities or to establish initial service. They should aid in securing so-called luxuries for libraries in the way of equipment, such as film projectors, which will enable libraries to render services over and above those ordinarily expected of them. And, in Montana, the state group must recognize the importance of a strong State Library Extension Commission and give it support. The library needs lay people as friends. The burden of interpreting the library to the community should not fall on the trustees alone. Moreover local as well as state groups are needed; but, since each community has its own characteristics, it is difficult to suggest a standard set of activities, and more especially a standard type of organization, that would fit such groups.

Speaking from the floor, Virginia Walton raised the point of the danger of a spearheading organization adopting a possessive attitude towards the Friends Group and refusing to relinquish leadership. In the discussion that followed, this was recognized as a danger and it was agreed that, as far as possible, a

Friends Group should represent a cross section of the Community. Wherever feasible, it should do this from the beginning. Mr. Clift suggested creating a council or Assembly consisting of represenatives from all community organizations--in effect organizing a sort of training school about the library so that these representatives would have something concrete to take back to their organizations.

In contradistinction to this point of view, instances were given where one group had served as a faithful and informal Friends of the Library organization for years, giving help without which the library concerned could never have accomplished what it has. Most often this has been the Women's Club of the community. It was recognized, however, that there might be situations in which such a group would prove an obstacle to the formation of a larger unit where such a unit was desirable for the promotion of extended library service. The problem was to convince the overly possessive members of such a group that it was for the public good that they relinquish leadership. Mrs. Schenk suggested that the librarian, or other interested person, go to the individuals who have a possessive feeling toward the library or Friends group, and talk to them alone. Appeal to them in this wise: "You started this Library in order to do something good for this community. Now we must broaden the interest. This is the next step which is as progressive as the one that you took in 1900"--or whatever the date might be. Let this sink in and don't first ask these people to commit themselves in open meetings. In conclusion, Inez Herrig pointed out that most civic-minded organizations today are trying to educate their members to cooperate with other groups. It is a matter of their public relations program. There are a few members who have the wrong attitude but not many and the danger of a situation such as had been posed becomes increasingly less probable.

At the end of the discussion Ruth Longworth called on Kathleen Campbell to make a report on the Trustees division meeting at the A.L.A. Convention in Minneapolis, June 24, 1954. Miss Campbell began by saying that when she came to Montana fifteen years ago she found few librarians who were members of A.L.A. and that when she attempted to talk on the desirability of membership, she was met by the question: "What does A.L.A. do for us?" And she had to admit that at that time it was not easy to find the answer. But the picture has changed immeasurably since then. We have come to the place when today our whole program has come to us from A.L.A.

The meeting at Minneapolis had much to offer the libraries of Montana. Particularly was this true of the Trustees Meeting--one of the most dynamic of all sessions with its panel theme: "Trustees: To be effective or ineffective, that is the question." While the majority of the panel members were trustees and librarians of larger libraries, including Mr. Richards and Mrs. Quigley from Seattle, the panel was geared to the needs of the small public library. Frank T. Milligan, Chairman of the Iowa Library Trustees Section of the Iowa Library Association and Mrs. Merlin Moore, Chairman of the Arkansas Library Commission especially did a superb job of presenting the small library point of view. The panel emphasized that the Board of Trustees' function is advisory and not administrative but the librarian doesn't own the library and shouldn't dominate it. The Board's job is to see that the librarian serves the public. Miss Campbell concluded by giving Mr. Milligan's formula for a successful trustee with the gestures that he had used as she had been directed to do by our President. While Miss Campbell modestly explained that her rendering did not have the spice of the original, all those who saw and heard her felt certain that she must have given to it a spice of her own, and they were convinced that it would behoove librarians as well as trustees to: Keep their eye on the ball, their shoulder to the wheel, their ear to the ground, their foot in the door, their nose to the grind stone and their hand on the throttle.

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 A.M., May 8, at the Elks Home. The first session took the form of a general discussion devoted to a consideration of the value of Friends of the Library Groups and to planning a program for the Association's Friends. Perl Coombs introduced Mrs. Evan Narestad and Mrs. Clarence Wehr, President and secretary-treasurer of the Hill County Friends Group and announced that, as a background for a general discussion of the problem, we would first consider what had been

done in Hill County. Explanations and replies to questions by the Hill County delegates unfolded the following facts about an organization founded on a real and very encouraging grass-roots interest in library development.

The impetus for the foundation of the Group began with a conversation Mrs. Moores had one day with a patron who had stepped into the library. They were talking about some of the library's problems and the need that the library had for help with its program. Mrs. Moores told this "informal" friend about the more "formal" Friends organizations which had proved helpful elsewhere. Her companion became inspired and sent out to tell others about Friends Groups. Largely as a result of her enthusiasm a few people got together at her home in Kremlin where they met with Mrs. Moores and Ellen Torgrimson, who had come over from Missoula for the occasion, and did some planning. Before the evening was over a constitutional committee was appointed.

Although the people initially interested in the formation of the Friends Group were not Home Demonstration people the Home Demonstration Clubs had been so public spirited in their backing of the library, that it was suggested they send representatives, which they did. They thus provided a good starting point for the organization and in many ways they have served as its backbone since. However, the Friends Group is by no means confined to representatives from these clubs. Anyone interested in county library development is eligible for membership. The dues are 50¢. The Board of Directors, who at present number eighteen, form the nucleus for what is a rather loose-knit and flexible organiaztion. Any organization or community within the county that is interested and wishes to appoint a delegate to serve as a Director can thus be represented on the Board. This device was adopted as a way of getting in some "strays" who would make influential leaders. So far no one has refused the honor. Hill County's state representative is one of these Directors at Large.

The Board does all the planning--and most of the work. Recently they have sent out letters to the membership outlining the accomplishments of the organization since its inception. The President and Secretary are chosen by the Board. An effort has been made to see that they both come from the same town, for easier working arrangements, and to rotate the towns among different sections of the county.

The Group was organized in 1948. The strongest factor which got the organization started and which knit it together was a feeling for the need to help and this has been the factor which has kept it vital since. The need at the beginning was to get certain matters ironed out with regard to a political situation involving the library. Consequently from the beginning, the need for governmental backing has been recognized by the Group. Every time an election approaches, the Friends contact each candidate for the County Commission, and ask him how he feels about the Library. When he gets into office he is well aware that there is a strong group interested in the library's welfare. The Friends Group also organized a campaign in support of the two-mill levy and bombarded the two representatives from Hill County with letters expressing their views on the matter.

More specifically, on the local level, the Group has been working for several years to find more space for library headquarters. They have provided the library with some of the so-called luxuries, including a movie projector and tape recorder and two ceiling projectors, and they have encouraged book memorials. The tape recorder and projector are loaned to school and hospitals and to a lesser extent to private homes. In response to Miss Whitmack's remark that in Billings there had been difficulty in interesting people in the home use of ceiling projectors, Mrs. Narestad replied that Hill County had experienced no such problem. When the first ceiling projector was purchased a number of demonstrations were given and since then it, and the second one, have been kept so busy, that there has been no need to further publicize them.

Mrs. Wehr outlined the more formal program of the Group. She explained they held three general or business meetings during the year and two teas--one in the spring and one in the fall. At the Spring meeting for the current year, they are honoring the Council of Home Demonstration Clubs. In the fall they

usually have a silver tea in some home, choosing each year a different part of the county for the event. At one especially successful tea they honored the Montana author, Dorothy Bonner, of Chinook, and they would like to have other such author teas. The County Commissioners and their wives are always invited to these teas. Some of the general meetings have been dinner meetings--either of a pot-luck character or held in restaurants--and at these they have usually tried to have outside speakers who were qualified to talk on library matters.

After this excellent description of the work of the Hill County Group, the session turned its attention to what had been done elsewhere in the state. Alma Jacobs said that the Great Falls Friends of the Library Group had been organized jointly by the Great Falls Public Library and the Cascade County Library. It had organized around support of the Library Extension Commission's budget. Its leaders planned, as their next objective, to have the Group spearhead an inquiry as to what people really wanted in the matter of combining the two libraries. Amy Patterson described the organization. She explained that Mrs. Jacobs had begun with a small but influential group of interested people in the city. This Group, especially, had been responsible for getting the excellent write-up about the Commission in the Great Falls Tribune. In the county, a Board of Directors has been organized and letters have been sent to home demonstration clubs asking them to send representatives; about sixty members have been lined up.

Perl Coombs said that in Glendive they are trying to work through clubs. They are planning to write letters to all clubs in town explaining the needs of the library, the greatest of which is space. Talks, with follow-up letters, sent to Home Demonstration Clubs in regard to starting a county library have so far met with negative response. Doubtless more time and possibly a different approach is necessary.

Clare Smith said that in Miles City the library has always met with such willing and effective response to calls for help from the Women's Club, that it has not felt the need for an organized group of Friends. It might be different if they were trying to bring in the county, but she was inclined to think that in the Miles City area with its sparse population and great distances, membership in such an organization would be largely from the city. Mrs. Wehr interposed that distances were great in Hill County but they had not proved a hindrance to getting country people to serve. Mrs. Schenk suggested that in some cases it might be feasible to start a Friends of the Library group for the city and let it work out into the country. That had been the procedure in Yakima, Washington.

It was also advised that, following the Hill County, Great Falls, and Glendive procedure, a librarian wishing to organize a Friends Group on the local level should first think through the needs for the library in that area, explain them to a few truly interested and enthusiastic people and get them to serve as a nucleus for the Group. These individuals could then contact different organized groups and sell them a program of support for the library. Mrs. Narestad stated that initially the most important thing for the librarian was to know the people of her community and which ones she could tap for support. Mrs. Wehr made the point that the Friends Board should keep a program, embracing the needs of the library, constantly before the different groups it was working with but this program should not be so ambitious as to frighten them.

Doris Wilson wondered why all the talking about Friends had been confined to adults. "What is the matter with our young people?", she asked. She urged that Groups should consider the help they might get from the older 4-H members, who would have had experience in working with county and home demonstration agents and who have a real program into which cooperation with a Friends Group would fit beautifully. Harriette Cushman agreed and added that the Builders' Group of the older 4-H is interested in all phases of community development. She also mentioned the Toastmasters and Toastmistresses as a group that might prove valuable to the Friends. They might be persuaded to act as emissaries.

At this point, Mrs. Coombs directed the session's attention to a consideration of what we ought to do on the state level. She advised that during the past year the membership committee had met a lot in the way of enlisting individual support and getting individuals to join the Association but no provision had been made for a program. While our Friends or Associate members had all privileges of membership except the right to vote

or hold office, they were a very scattered group of people with diverse interests and it seemed that they might be a more unified and effective force within the Association if, as lay members, they had some leadership and a program of their own.

The question of whether a Friends Division could be organized within the Association was raised and it was decided that, although the Constitution did not provide for the formation of such a separate division it might be possible to set up an informal or unofficial division, or preferably a committee, to work with the Associate members; and also that it would be in order for the session discussing this question to make recommendations to the business meeting to that effect. The participants in the discussion further decided that it would be in order to recommend officers for such a set-up. Harriette Cushman as chairman and Mrs. Wehr as secretary-treasurer were the unanimous choice of the session it being understood that Miss Cushman would choose her own corresponding secretary.

Someone asked about the use of the term "associate members". Mrs. Schenk explained that in some areas of the country some people had not liked the word Friends and had substituted the word "Associate". Mrs. Coombs said that her committee had approached lay people and asked them to join as Friends but our constitution uses the phrase Associate members. The session closed with an enumeration of a few of the things that should be part of a state's group program, viz., trying to get more local organizations which would support the Commission, work for helpful legislation and actively endorse building programs, etc; which would aid in securing publicity for libraries; and which would aid in the distribution of rural reading lists.

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NEWS & NOTES

Ruth Longworth reports that preliminary plans for the new Glacier County Library are being checked and that contracts will probably be let April 1. The architects are Page & Werner of Great Falls.

The new library at Columbia Falls will be open soon after February 1. The former office building was donated by the Anaconda Aluminum Co. and was moved by Flathead County to a site donated by the school district. Renovation has been done by volunteer work with donated materials. Knotty pine panelling and acoustical tile ceiling will insure an attractive and quiet atmosphere. The library is a branch of the Flathead County Library and according to Mrs. Cornelia Sherman, County Librarian, the books will come from the main collection. Mrs. C. M. Rasmussen is branch librarian.

Mrs. Doris Coughlan is in charge of radio publicity for the Missoula Public Library. All three radio stations are cooperating in presenting as spot announcements four or five items of news, word of new books, etc. This is a fine project and it is to be hoped that radio stations in other communities may be persuaded to cooperate with their local libraries.

The Helena Public Library is the recipient of gift subscriptions from Mrs. Florence Sanden MacPherson of Grand Junction, Colorado, an old "Friend of the Library" and from Morrison Flying Service of Helena.

Helena has a Wednesday Book Review Club which meets in the Public Library every other Wednesday.

Troy is another community that has obtained a library building for itself. This branch of the Lincoln County Free Library was officially opened October 19. It is a concrete building 30' x 26' with tile floor, oil heat and fluorescent lights. Mrs. Herrig, the County Librarian, reports that 12,036 books were loaned last year from the Troy Branch. Mrs. Frank French is Branch Librarian.

Mrs. Robert Herrig, Librarian of Lincoln County Free Library, has recently been appointed representative of the General Federation of Women's Clubs on the Standards Committee of the American Association of School Librarians. This Committee has been set up to revise the ALA standards for school libraries. Mrs. Herrig will attend a committee meeting in New York the end of January.

A very successful dinner was held by the Hill County Friends of the Library on October 6. The purpose was to honor Dan Whetstone on the publication of his new book "I Saw the Old West Fade". The toastmaster was Jack Travis, editor of the Havre Daily News. 150 attended.

Hill County Friends have elected their new officers. These are: President--Mrs. Oscar Hoiseth, Gildford; Vice-President--Mrs. James Schucka, Havre; Secretary--Mrs. Jennings Swinney, Gildford.

Hill County Library's program of book memorials has aroused interest in far places. The Santa Barbara (Calif.) Public Library recently wrote for information about it.

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The Havre Public Library is getting new lights on its lower floor and in the children's room.

On the Membership Committee of the MSLA Mrs. William Cowan of Box Elder replaces Mrs. Ralph Purdy. This correction would be made in the list of Committees on p. 2 of the October Quarterly.

Northern Montana College Library, Havre, has received a gift of $13,000 from G. J. Bonino of Havre. It is to be spent for furniture and books.

The Great Falls Public Library has sent a copy of the Great Falls Reader for November, 1955, and it is full of good ideas for publicity.

During the fall, two local library groups were organized on an informal basis, the Helena and Great Falls Library Associations. They plan to meet in their own communities for discussion of library matters and also to visit each other's meetings. This seems like an excellent development, and the rest of us will expect many fine ideas to come forth.

The Friends of the Flathead County Library, representing 34 home demonstration Clubs, are actively supporting a plan to build an adequate county court house which would also house the Library. Realization of the situation came to the Friends when the Library was forced to move from the building it had occupied, and the complete inadequacy of all county office space was revealed. At present, it is thought that only a portion of the planned building will be erected to house the Library and four other county offices which at present occupy rented quarters.

If anyone knows the whereabout of
Delores Froehlich
and
Marie Gambill
please notify Mrs. Clare Smith, M.C.P.L.

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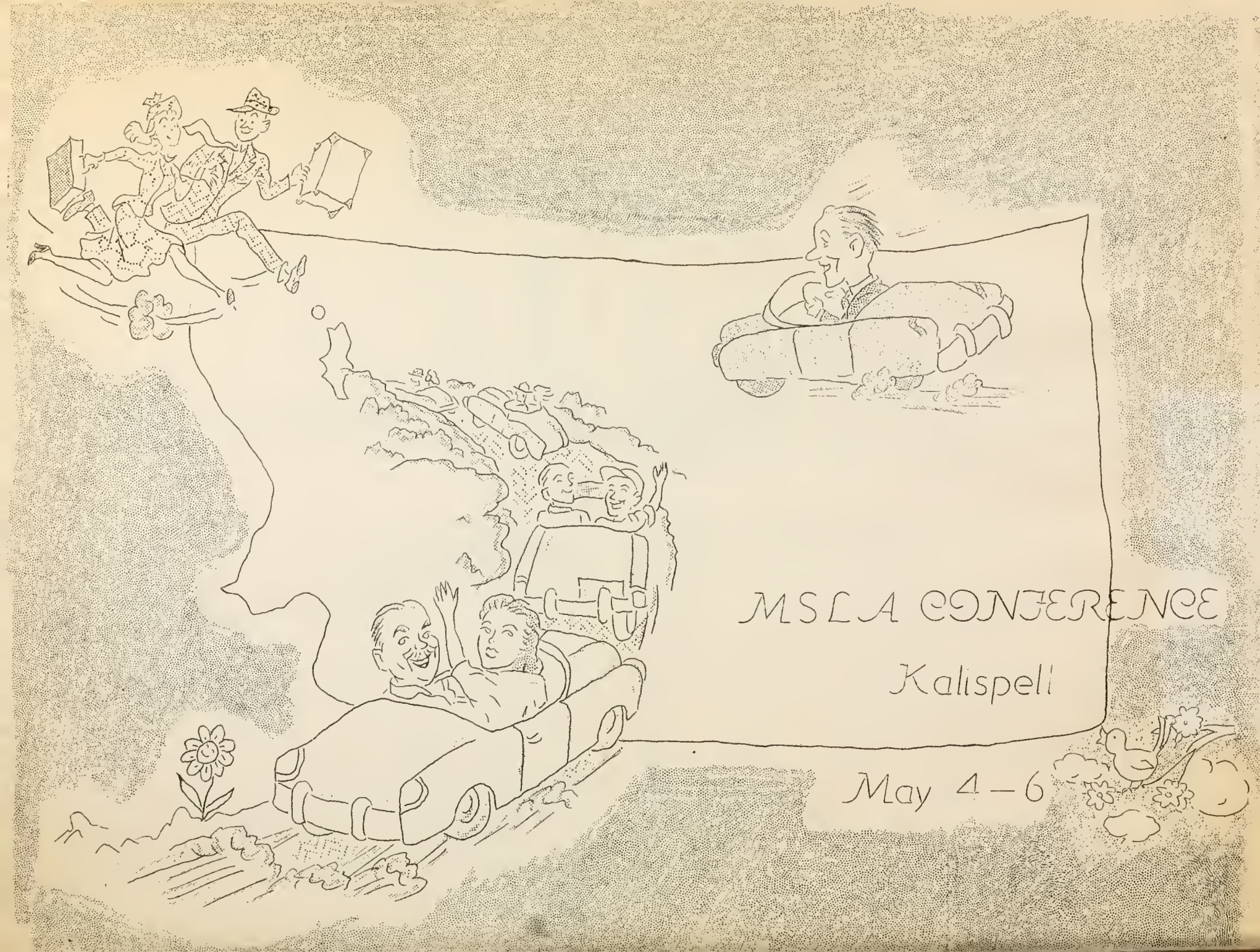
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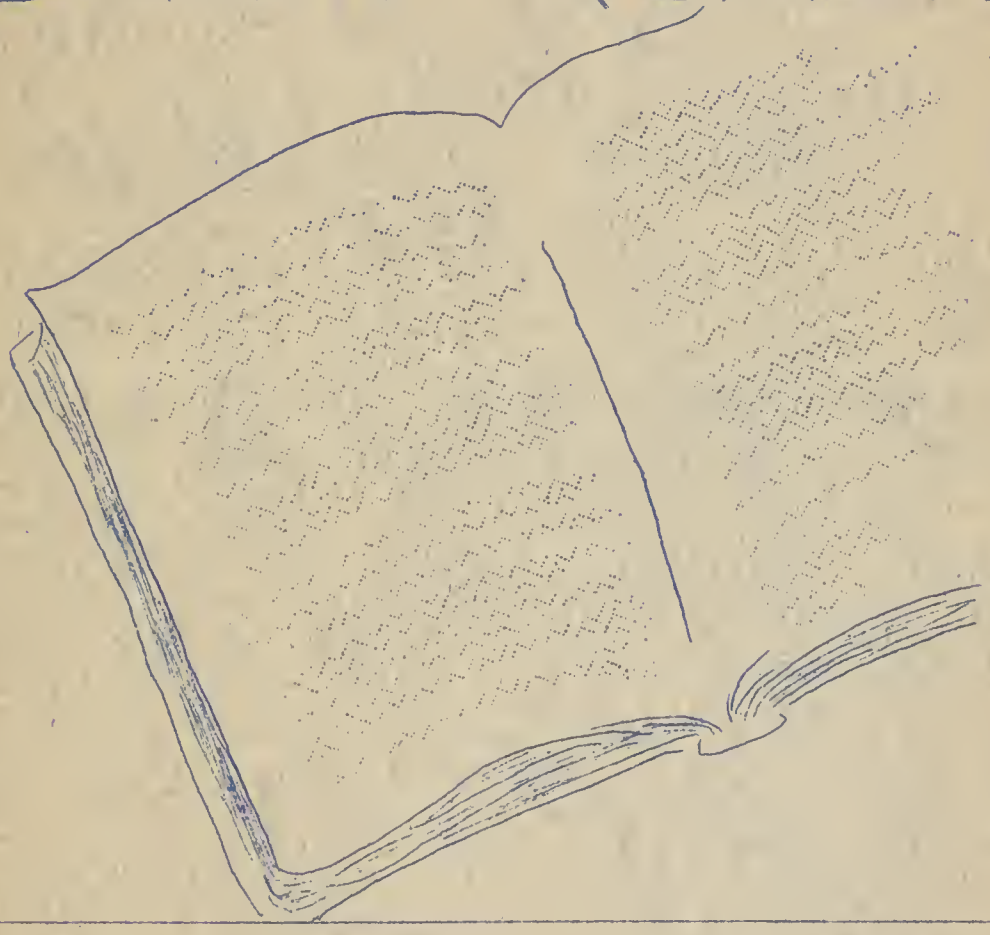

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THE MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Official Publication of the Montana State Library Association

Volume 1, No. 3 April 1956

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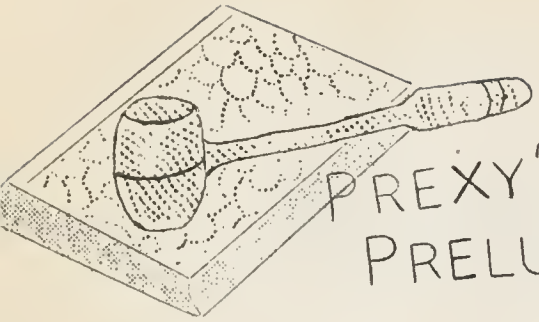

ARE OUR LIBRARY SERVICES CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE?

Today there came to my desk another issue of the ALA BULLETIN, with the provocative statement in President John Ricahrds' report to the Council that "If libraries are crucially important in this mid-part of the 20th century, then the people must be made to realize thier need for our services."

This year's theme for the Montana State Library Association has been "Know -- and Grow." And a two-pronged meaning stands behind those words. They mean growth for the librarian in his own personal understanding of responsibility for book collection and services, and by the same token they mean that the lay world must grow into an understanding of services immediately available in the library community and the potentialities of service where library support is adequately paid for from the community pocketbook. Strong citizens' support is sorely needed all over Montana to bring our library standards to a point of real adequacy. Much good is coming, and will continue to come, from well organized Friends of Libraries groups, both on a local and a statewide level; even more good will come when librarians and citizens together survey problems that have stood in the way of real library progress and together arrive at solutions so that the day of acceptable and effective service is assured.

If this is a matter for grave consideration on the part of the American Library Association, even more it is a matter of concern for us of the Montana State Library Association, and for us individually in whatever community unit we serve. This is not the time for complacency for us as librarians; and citizens' groups dare not suffer from lethargy in the support of libraries. The learning process must be a vigorous one; and once learning of the best course we can take is accomplished, then comes the time we must dare to be responsible public servants. Only then will library services be crucially important in the communities we serve.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF READING

by Mark Boesch

"If I were to pray for a taste which should stand me in stead under every variety of circumstances, and be a source of happiness and cheerfulness to me through life, and a shield against its ills, however things might go amiss and the world frown upon me, it would be a taste for reading..."

These words of Sir John Herschel, the famous British astronomer, are, I think, more applicable today than ever before. If there was ever a time when people have had a need for good reading habits, it is today. People need a shield today against the fast tempo of modern living and the uncertainties and vesations that exist in this turbulent age in which we live.

But what is it that the majority of the people read? Let's look at our own country. Newsprint consumption in the United States in 1951 was 77 pounds per person, the greatest in the world. Americans read newspapers. And what do they read in their newspapers? I don't think I have to answer that. Just pick up the latest edition of your own paper and see.

Now let's turn to books. And here you may be in for a surprise. The United States may lead in newsprint consumption, but in the publication of new books in 1952 we were behind the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Japan. Yet we have a much greater population than any of those countries. There were 9,399 new books published in the United States during 1952 compared to 13,150 in the United Kingdom. But the United States has almost half of the radio receivers in the world, and far and away the greatest number of television sets.

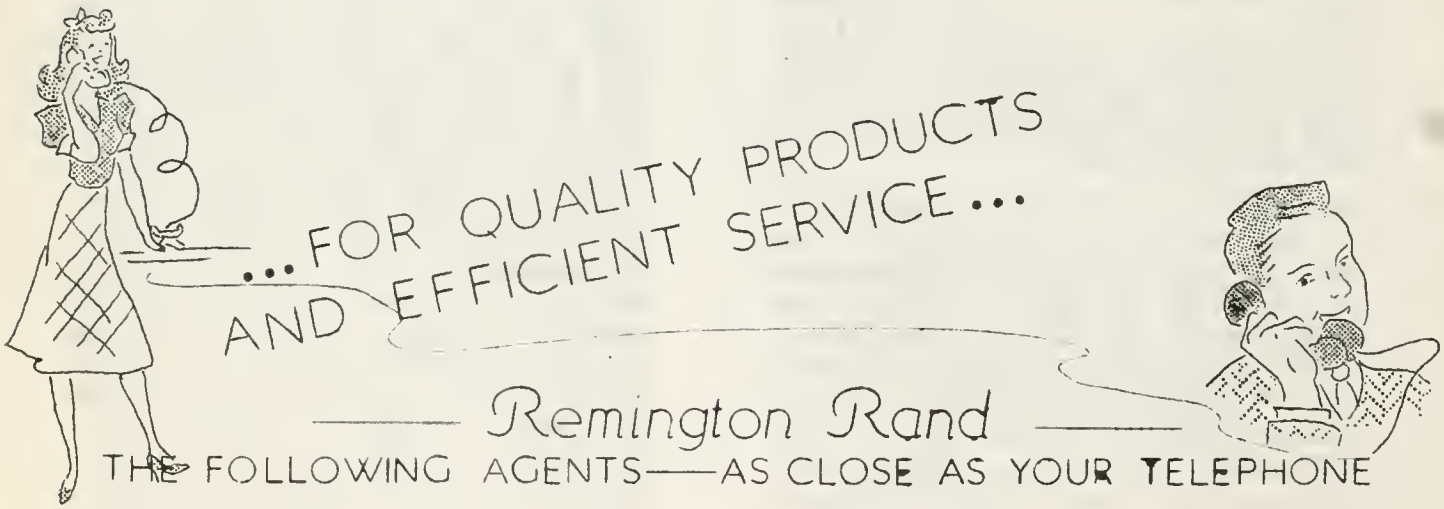
The last bit of statistice which I will quote to you from the new UNESCO handbook, are, I think, quite revealing too. The United States has the largest number of students enrolled in higher education in the world, plus the largest number of foreign students in higher education. Our young people are being educated, but for what? I wonder how many, after their formal education is over, follow the advice of Horace Mann to "edge in a little reading every day, if it is but a single sentence"? Certainly few of them would go along with Erasmus, who said "When I get a little money, I buy books; and if any is left, I buy food and clothes." We are turning out some excellent engineers, physicists, doctors, and lawyers, but we are not turning out nearly enough good readers.

The world of books is indeed, a wonderful world. People who read and enjoy good books live much better and fuller lives than those who cannot or will not read. Good readers live not just one, but many lives. Because literature is the expression of feelings, the reader can go along on the thrilling ascent of Annapurna, or he can go afloat on a raft in the ocean in the pages of "Kon Tiki." He can live in the days of the Revolution in a book like "The Tree of Liberty," or he can go along west with the mountain men in "The Big Sky." With each good book that he reads, he emerges a more full and experienced individual, with a greater depth of wisdom and understanding. A tyrant or a demagogue would be less apt to sway him, because he has run into such an unworthy before and knows how to deal with him. He is better able to face the issues and make the right decisions. Reading a good book is an exercise of the mind, and the mind grows and becomes stronger with the more exercise it is given.

But to read best is to read well. And to read well requires both study and guidance. The best time to begin reading well is while we are still young enough for our minds to be molded and influenced. But the paradox is, reading keeps our minds young, and it is never too late to acquire the habit of good reading. The best way to start is to read

what interests us. But here too we need guidance. Our interests often lie dormant until the spark is ignited that leads us to the books which wait to be read and enjoyed. And where do we find that spark? We find it often in talking with others, in reading about some book, and in a chance visit to our public library. It is the mark of a democratic country that people have available free library service where they may get the books to read that will lead them to new horizons of thought and experience.

Unfortunately, here in Montana we do not have available all of the library service that we as a free and enlightened people should have. There are too many of our communities which do not have a library at all. And there are too many others which do not have the kind of libraries that they should have. Yet it is through the libraries that the people can best acquire the books they need to become good readers. Library science is as much a science as is any other science that deals with education or improvement of knowledge. The trained librarian can best guide the embryo reader, providing the spark that will stimulate his interests. By stocking the right kind of books, by the effective display of these books, our libraries can be the most effective means of making all of us better readers. I hope that the people of Montana will be provided with the kind of library service that will enable all of them to have the opportunity of reading the books that will be the means of living richer and fuller lives.



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THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION

Ruth O. Longworth

On last November 28th, some 18,000 men and women gathered in Washington to think and plan for the nation's schools. This was a culmination of a year of study on a local, regional, and state level, throughout the nation.

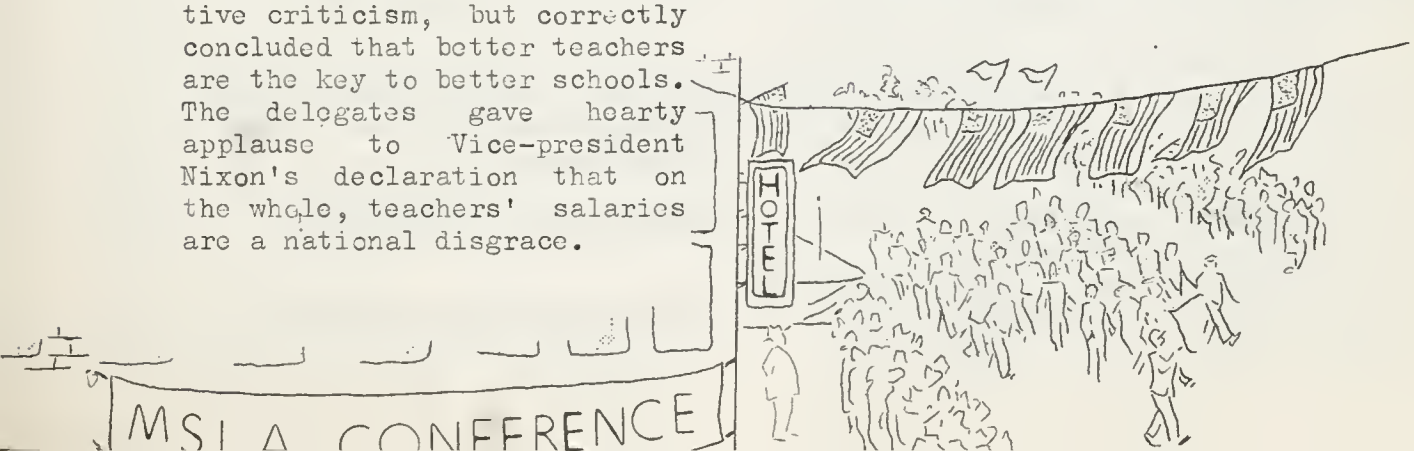
President Eisenhower called the Conference because of the seriousness of the crisis that had developed in education: the crying need for more and better teachers, for classroom space and for better financing of the educational program.

The Conference was decidedly successful. The recommendations of the delegates grouped under the following three substantial achievements:

> First: They demanded a broad-gauge program for education. They did not call for schools restricted to the Three R's and preparation for a college education. They demand and seem ready to pay for, comprehensive educational opportunities for our children and youth.
>
> Second. The conference revealed a well balanced understanding of the needs of American education. The schools have been subjected to a great deal of criticism, much of it unfair and unfounded. The Conference did not emphasize this negative criticism, but correctly concluded that better teachers are the key to better schools. The delegates gave hearty applause to Vice-president Nixon's declaration that on the whole, teachers' salaries are a national disgrace.
>
> Third: The Conference developed unusually fine teamwork between the educators present and the participants from other occupations. The educators were outnumbered two to one, both in the Conference as a whole and in the discussion groups. To my mind, this is a most important factor. The chief value of the Conference lay in the opportunity it offered to the American public, to those who pay for the support of the schools, to participate in formulating a policy for education.

I would like to have seen a better representation of librarians in the Conference. True, some of the states invited librarians to their meetings, but they are the exception rather than the rule.

Our Conference in Miles City pointed up the importance of cooperative effort between schools and libraries, as did the ALA Conference on which we patterned our meeting. Winnafern Moore has done an exceptionally fine job of follow-up this past year, bringing teachers and librarians together in her work shops throughout the state, so I believe we can be pleased with our progress in cooperative effort. It will be good if we continue to take a vital interest in all problems of education, to work in close accord with the educators. Mrs. Moore pointed out that our aims are identical: we are both working for progress in the same direction. Together we can take big strides!



MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Kalispell, Montana
May 4-6, 1956

Conference Theme: KNOW - AND GROW!

Conference Guests: John S. Richards, Librarian Seattle Public Library and President American Library Association
Dr. Irving Leiberman, Director University of Washington School of Librarianship

Friday, May 4

Pre-conferences (for all who can come early):
Recruitment problems - Librarians needed! How do we get them?
Standards for public libraries - measuring sticks for today and tomorrow

7:00 P.M. - No-host supper

8:00 P.M. - First general meeting
Business meeting
"Introducing Dr. Lieberman"

Saturday, May 5

9:00 A.M. - Second general meeting
Montana's libraries in a changing world - Post-war standards in 1956 - Mrs. Catherine Chadwick, MSLEC
Promise of the Ford Foundation's survey for the Pacific Northwest - Kathleen Campbell, MSU
ALA and the Great Northwest- John S. Richards, President ALA

12:00 - Luncheon - "Let's meet an author."
Third general meeting

1:30 P.M. - Workshops - Workshops - Workshops!
The new look in audio-visual materials
You and your legislative world (Budget problems, legal problems)
The new look in publicity

7:00 P.M. - Fun at Big Mountain Lodge

Sunday, May 6

7:30 A.M. - Friends of Libraries breakfast and business meeting

9:30 A.M. - Fourth general meeting
Problems and accomplishments in cooperation - school libraries and public libraries look to each other
Basic reference book from Almanacs to ...

12:00 - Luncheon - Friends of Libraries have their day!

1:30 P.M. - Fifth general meeting
Business meeting - and all's well that ends well

(Editor's Note: From time to time the Quarterly will publish brief articles on book mending by Doris Wilson. Comments, suggestions, and questions will be welcomed.)

MENDING THREADS

Doris E. Wilson

The liquid plastic adhesives may be the answer to your mending needs if you just take time to learn how they will fit into your repair program. They may even help you to plan and establish such a program if you lack one now. Take, for instance, the small library with a budget for rebinding only such books as have proved their value to its reading public. Mending care will keep them presentable until circulation indicates that they are worth this extra cost. Temporary repair is no answer to the problem if it calls for expensive equipment, supplies or outlay of staff time. Why not examine the possibilities offered by the plastic adhesives?

The term mending in this discussion does not include recasing or recovering books, or renewing title panels. Light mending parallels the mending care we give our clothes to keep them looking neat and attractive. A stitch-in-time is a wise policy for both projects. Current publications do not have durable cover-cases. They rapidly show wear at the corners and along the panel hinges and for that reason, saving the cover-case becomes an important factor. Try applications of plastic on these weakening places before they wear through.

Oily or soiled places should be cleaned with denatured alcohol or a mild detergent before the plastic liquid is used. Clip frayed edges or loose cloth threads with scissors and use the fingers to mold and smooth them down as the adhesive dries. A damp cloth or sponge should be near at hand to wipe up splashes and clean fingers while the plastic is still wet. As you work at mending the brush or applicator must always stand in a glass of water when it is not in use. Clean it well with soap and water as the mending is finished for the day. The "soluble in water" property attributed to this new product means that you may keep its creamy consistency by adding a little water as it is needed; you may protect the surface of your supply with a film of water as you close the jar for the day. These adhesives make good their boast to stick forever, as you will learn if jar tops and covers are not absolutely clean when you screw the lid in place. A thin film of vaseline will help to keep the top and lid working freely.

Use plastics on torn pages, loose pages, loose signatures and along the hinge where the end sheet loosens. Use no more than is necessary, let the liquid dry a little, then protect all mended places with waxed paper before the book is closed. These products begin to set instantly, however, they do not dry that fast. Strengthen the cracks that begin to show between signatures within the book with a couple of applications of plastic to cover the threads of the super and edges of the signatures. Prop the book open at a 90° angle until completely dry, protect with waxed paper, close and leave under a weight for twenty-four hours.

The best spring tonic for almost any book is to leave it under a heavy press for twelve hours, roughly over night. Just remember that the area of weight should not cover the book beyond the hinge-groove or edge of the book boards. By all means try to clean books that have been dropped in the mud. Usually it is best to leave them until the

mud is dry. Brush the spots to remove as much as possible, wipe lightly with a damp sponge or cheese cloth, protect with paper toweling and press over night.

The application of water tends to remove some of the dressing in the cover-case cloth and plastic may be used after the area is thoroughly dry to restore the surface again. Try diluting the plastic with water before it is applied unless the cover has had to be scrubbed in the cleaning process. Wrinkled pages may be reconditioned in much the same manner. We call this "washing pages". Straighten out the wrinkles, wipe quickly with a damp sponge, add blotting towels above and below, close the book and place it under a press.

These temporary mending jobs keep your books trim and attractive until they are ready for commercial binding. The necessary equipment is simple; scissors, a small brush with short rather stiff bristles about one-half inch wide, waxed paper, a damp cheese cloth or sponge, a small jar of water, and a small jar of plastic adhesive.

A number of dealers sell plastic adhesives, especially library supply houses. Essentially, the product is the same under each trade name, the same price. A cheaper brand may not have the true plastic properties, i.e. flexibility when dry, milky in color to dry transparent, unfit for use after it freezes, evaporates quickly, soluble in water.

Liquid plastic adhesives are recommended for light mending because they require simple equipment and techniques, they need little work space and provide a good flexible bond. This is your chance to set up your own library laboratory. Learn the special uses these products offer your own library and let the Montana Library Quarterly know if you discover something special about their use.

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AMONG FRIENDS

Let's talk about the MSLA Annual meeting which will be held at Kalispell May 4, 5, and 6. After all, the Friends of the Library are associate members of the Montana State Library Association.

If the Library Services Bill for Rural Areas passes (we will know by May), there will be many projects and much work for us to do.

Considering all the details that librarians must handle and the problems to be solved at this three-day annual meeting, it seems to me they are treating us handsomely to give us the amount of time which they have allotted to us on their program. Let's reciprocate by attending. If you can't be there the entire time, at least attend the Sunday sessions. Better get there on Saturday night as we start with a Friends of the Library breakfast at the unholy hour of 7:30 A.M. on Sunday.

Just this once I'm sure you can make so early a date. We have so many fish to fry. To me the prospect is exciting. We have limped along this year although accomplishing a lot. Nevertheless, it was a hit or miss affair. Now we have proved to ourselves and others that we can be of service to our communities and our libraries. We are ready to take the next step, that is set up state wide machinery for our Friends of the Library Organization.

At this breakfast meeting we should select a state board with project chairmen and decide about a few simple but meaningful jobs which can be tackled and carried through in 1956-1957. Also we should set up some long time goals and figure what can be done about them during the coming year.

Who does this? In talking over this with the M.S.L.A. President, Miss Virginia Walton, we felt that every County Association, now functioning, should have at least two official representatives on a state wide board. Of course more than two are urged to attend the meeting but only the two would have official status. Then there should be representation from the list of isolated F.O.L. members, such as myself, who belong to no local group.

I hope to have 50 members there. Am I too optimistic? Please, prove I'm not by coming.

Some Librarians have asked to sit in on our breakfast. Certainly we want our MSLA President. But I have made it quite plain that librarians are not to take active part in the meeting. Therefore it is doubly important that F.O.L. members should be there and conduct their own meeting.

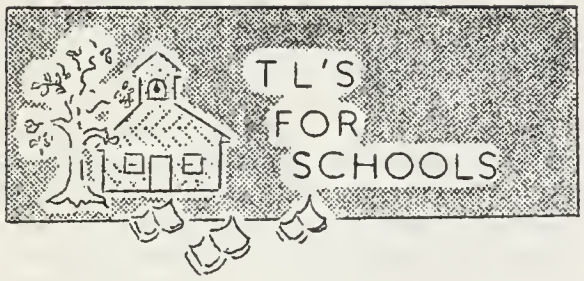
Then Sunday noon we have charge of the Luncheon meeting for the entire group. We are planning to put on a demonstration to show others how a Friends group can function in a community in interesting the lay people in the library services which are available to them. Through such a demonstration we hope to get librarians, now a little dubious, thoroughly awakened to the advantages of organizing Friends of the Library groups in their areas.

In order to cut down on travel expense please contact other friends so that the trip to Kalispell will not be a financial burden.

For those who know and love the Flathead, it will be a wonderful opportunity to revisit that lovely area. For you who are strangers to it, you have a treat in store.

But over and above all, the trip will be worth the effort because of the friendships which you will make. It will be gratifying to meet others who have similar problems. Just talking your problems over with them will give you new insight and will go a long way in solving them.

So---Be seeing you in Kalispell on May 6th.



Free materials! Where can we send for worthwhile items? Your problem will be helped greatly through the latest (1956) edition of Free and Inexpensive Learning Materials. The book is published by the George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville 5, Tennessee and may be obtained for $1.00. All materials included in the list were examined and evaluated so a dollar spent may save you many.

****

Posters, bulletin boards, etc., may be conveniently stored for future use in paper garment bags. Put in a clothes hanger, slide in the material, fold and seal the bag with staples, label and hang away in a closet.

****

When it is necessary to use a regular shelf for big, awkward, oversize books or pamphlets turn to the shop boys. They can quickly make a false shelf of quarter inch plywood with dividers every seven or eight inches. A thin strip of wood across the back will hold the dividers firm.

****

We are always desperately eager to locate books and materials that will be helpful to the retarded reader. Any list we find, we look over anxiously to see if it will answer our problem. If you are not familiar with the following items, get acquainted. If you are, have you called them to the attention of your co-worker? What lists have you found especially helpful?

Books for Severely Retarded Junior High Readers. U.D. Lutz. English Journal 39:439 - 47. Oct. 1950. Some basic suggestions for further information as well as a good list of books with reading levels noted.

Books for Tired Eyes a list of books in large print. C. Matson and L. Larson, A.L.A., 1951. Books for adults as well as children are included. Often the appearance of large print is the encouragement needed for the reluctant reader. May be a help for locating stepping stones to independent reading.

Books for the Slow Learner. California State Committee on Developmental Reading. National Association Secondary School Principals Bulletin 35:40-42. February 1951.
Good suggestions on list. However, entire issue is given to reading instruction for slow learner. Expose your school staff.

Fare for the Reluctant Reader. A.E. Dunn and others, rev. ed. Capital Area School Development Association, New York State College for Teachers, 1952. Brief notations of books in various catagories are given for readers in the junior and senior high schools. The list was revised in 1952 and may be obtained for $1.00.

Vocations in Fact and Fiction. K. A. Haebish. A.L.A., 1953. Vocational books are read. While this list contains books for all young people, the easier books are identified by stars.

Sometimes having the athletes in the school library serves two or more purposes. One, it shows idolizing youth that the library isn't just for "sissies"; two, it exposes those often reluctant (not particularly remedial) readers to books. The innoculation may take! The danger of discipline problems is evident but again responsibility usually controls their impulses. I felt the results justified the effort involved.

A series of meetings of great importance to the future of the Commission was held in Helena, February 5-6. The Commission itself heard the report of the first six months' work of the Library Consultant, and discussed at length the future location and housing of the Commission, as well as its future policies and plans.

Immediately after the Commission meeting the Committee on Federal Aid, appointed by Miss Campbell as a consultative group to the Commission, met. The group consists of Mrs. Chadwick as chairman, Miss Campbell as consultant, Miss Lesley Heathcote, Mrs. Ruth Longworth, Miss Virginia Walton, Mrs. Marjorie Moores. The implications of the question to our state, which is one of those for which federal aid was specifically designed, since the money must be spent in rural areas (rural to be defined as communities with less than 10,000 population) or by larger municipalities in extending their service outside the city, were thoroughly covered by the discussion. Since the State Library Extension Commission is appointed by law to administer the funds if they become available Mrs. Chadwick is working on planning possibilities with the assistance of the committee.

The third meeting of the series was that of the Legislative Committee of the M.S.L.A. headed by Mrs. Atta Graybill, formerly of the Commission and now a member of the board of directors of the Great Falls Public Library. Mrs. Graybill's work in promoting legislation of value to the Commission is well known.

The Commission staff is busily setting up standard school collections under the direction of Florena Vinal. Three types of standard collections will be available, for all-grade school situations, for primary and for upper grades. These collections are carefully chosen and will remain intact, to avoid the mechanics of charging and discharging the books in our limited quarters. The handling of the collections is through a multiple invoice system.

The staff is trying out this new system, hoping that there are not too many "bugs." If it is successful, it will greatly facilitate work at headquarters. Special collections, and special requests will be handled as usual. The new system is an effort to cope with our ballooning school demands, which, incidentally we are delighted to have since they indicate an increasing interest in reading in our schools.

An article by Mrs. Chadwick describing the new library built and dedicated in Kern County just before she came to Montana is included in the February 15th issue of the Library Journal.

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Forty-second Annual Meeting
Proceedings, Part III

The fourth session convened at 2 P.M., May 7, for a panel discussion on the subject of "Cooperation between Schools and Libraries: How Effective Can it be," with Mrs. Gretchen Schenk presiding and David clift, Mrs. Winnafern Moore, Eilene Morrison and Mrs. Inez Herrig participating.

Mrs. Herrig opened the discussion by outlining the cooperative reading plan of the Lincoln County Library and county schools--a year-round project that has as its purpose the promotion of reading habits rather than the circulation of books or even, primarily, the forming of the "Public Library" habit. The books are in no way confined to those in the library. Incidentally, however, the project demonstrates to the teachers the value of the county library and the desire of the library staff to work with the schools.

Mrs. Moore made the point that the goals of the library and of the schools are essentially the same. She said that this was the first M.S.L.A. meeting she had attended and she had been inspired to find so many people working so intelligently and enthusiastically towards goals which are also the goals of school people.

Mr. Clift added that we are apt to drift into the habit of thinking that because one institution is located here and another there, their aims are essentially different whereas when they are able to get together, they frequently find their goals are very similar although their method of approach is different.

Mrs. Schenk emphasized that although some people think there is competition between the school and the public library actually there is none. The child with the reading habit reads more and more and therefore each institution supplements the other in its work. However there is necessarily some differentiation. The thing to ask is where should each institution be strong.

A suggestion was made that the schools had the responsibility of teaching the mechanics of reading whereas this was not a library function and the group concurred. Another suggestion that a school library should have a strong reference collection whereas the collection of the Children's Department of a public library should be largely recreational was queried by Eilene Morrison. She maintained that differentiation does not fall along exactly these lines. It is more a matter of cooperation in use of budgets. The schools feel obligated to order basic books that they can use year after year to fit into their curricula. They use the Public Library for the enrichment of their collection. The efforts of the school library, however, need to embrace both recreational and reference use. It is the schools' responsibility to educate children for life in the community after they are through school and such a responsibility can be fulfilled only through the promotion of all possible use of the school library, combined with full encouragement of the children to make the widest use of community libraries. As far as the reference collection is concerned a good school library and good public library should work together on a buying program each supplementing the other. In some ways the school library's problem is simpler that that of the public library. Both children and teachers are in the school and they automatically use the library within their walls to answer their questions whereas the public library has to devise ways of getting the children to enter the library building.

Lesley Heathcote stated that at Montana State College the staff is trying to educate all future teachers, not just school librarians, in the use of library materials and know-

ledge of what the Public Library is and what it can do. She further remarked that where there has been so little understanding in the past, everything should not be left to the schools. The public librarians have a responsibility to make an approach to the school librarians.

It was proposed that the approach should not only be made individually but also in association meetings. Efforts should continue towards getting more school people to attend M.S.L.A. meetings and public librarians should be invited to M.E.A. sessions. Alta Lucius, school librarian at Conrad, advised that school librarians would welcome this. She said a year ago she went to the M.E.A. meeting at Great Falls and attended a delightful school library section. This year it fell flat. She believed the school library program of the M.E.A. meetings would be improved by joint meetings of librarians with M.E.A. Merwin Moores commented that both he and Mrs. Moores had been invited to attend M.E.A. meetings at Great Falls and that he was convinced the school people, as well as librarians, are interested in breaking down the separateness between the schools and public libraries of the state.

Cooperative book buying and cooperative book processing were mentioned as two areas in which school and public libraries might get together and find mutual help. Ruth Longworth described the cooperative book processing of the Glacier County Library and county schools and Evelyn Swant referred to the former set-up in Missoula County under which the Board of County Commissioners contracted with the city library for the purchase of books for county schools. Mrs. Schenk touched on mutual consideration of remedial reading and other problems as a means of bringing about cooperation between public libraries and school people. She pointed out that it was easy to cooperate if one had a point of common interest and added that a public librarian who has found such cooperation hard sledding might seek opportunities to bring up such problems.

Mrs. Moore commented that in some cases public libraries have helped the school libraries by loaning them room collections. She raised the question of whether the room collection was the answer. Was it not better to have a central school library? Eilene Morrison replied that room libraries are fine so long as they are changed frequently. Unfortunately very few elementary schools in the state have librarians. The room libraries are therefore usually static. The room teacher is in charge of the books and the collection remains the same. She proposed that it might be possible to have a county school librarian who would go from school to school changing collections. Mrs. Graybill voiced the opinion that in effect the Commission is doing just that when it loans room libraries to county school.

Mrs. Schenk asked how books loaned to schools from Public Libraries were handled. Clare Smith explained that in Miles City the Public Library charges rural teachers a small fee. City teachers pay no fees but the numbers of books they take for room use is limited to ten. Books cannot be removed from the schoolroom library table so the teacher is not responsible for circulation. Ann Whitmack added that in Billings the county school boards paid a fee for each room. It was the consensus that the putting of purely recreational reading material in the form of room libraries in schools and communities where there was a great dearth of such material had definitely resulted in an increase in the reading ability of the children concerned.

Mrs. Schenk raised the question: "How can we get taxpayers and school administrators to put more money into buying children's books for schools. Are we doing the right thing, or are we delaying development, by this token service?"

Mr. Clift replied that the ideal must sometimes be approached by degrees. Each school should have a librarian, adequate quarters and a

good book collection but there are two ways to work towards these goals. The first is by the kind of cooperation we have been talking about. If good, and if the service, token though it may be, becomes better and better, it may result in what we want. The other method is by direct frontal attack.

Eilene Morrison stressed that it was not enough to make an approach to the teachers. We must educate administrators and make them aware that librarians are trying to help every child, every teacher, and every department in their schools. Frances Plummer agreed that cooperation from administrators was essential. She deplored the fact that only five administrators had attended the library section of M.E.A. at Billings last fall. The chief hindrances to good school library work in the state are lack of trained librarians and inadequate budgets, she argued. These hindrances could be partially overcome by the support of informed administrators. Mr. T. A. Hunt, Superintendent and Librarian of Klein High School recognized the critical role of the administrator and urged that administrators needed education with reference to services offered. Lesley Heathcote remarked, in this connection, that at the State College the staff were hoping that some administrators would take the course that Eilene Morrison gives in library administration during the summer.

Mrs. Schenk thereupon suggested that an administrator who had had good library experience would be more apt than others to realize the importance of the library--and by this she meant experience in good public and college library service as well as school library service. Maybe, on the local level, we should begin by striving to win his appreciation of the service of his public library. This might be an argument for the indirect approach.

In response to the suggestion that the library requirements for schools be made stronger, Eilene Morrison averred that administrators must know where to find trained librarians before we can put too much pressure on them. The new thirty hour course to be given at the State University, as well as the courses at the State College, were mentioned. Merwin Moores pointed out that as far as library education of elementary teachers is concerned, we must take into consideration the difficulty of getting a course on the use of the library or library methods into the curriculum when the training schools must turn out teachers who can go out and teach at the end of two years. At Havre the teacher librarian course starts at the third year level and even there it runs into difficulties of competing interests. This quarter, Mr. Moores had started with twelve students and now has but five. Alta Lucius proposed that the school librarian might help solve this problem by enlisting the interest of promising youngsters in library work and in becoming teacher-librarians.

The seventh session was held Sunday morning, May 8 at 10:30 a.m. and took the form of a discussion of "The Library and the Elementary School", with Mrs. Winnafern Moore presiding. Mrs. Moore introduced Mrs. Laura Jane Taft, Glacier County Superintendent of School, who opened the discussion. Mrs. Taft observed that if a democratic government is to function it must have an informed citizenry. The schools' responsibility is therefore to teach boys and girls not only the mechanics of reading and arithmetic but also to engage in critical thinking. The schools must help them to gain the ability to weigh both sides of a question and come up with a wise decision of their own. For this, wide reading and ability to read with comprehension are essential.

Mrs. Moore concurred. She stressed that today's citizens must be very well informed in order to be intelligent voters. Their education must be continuous and in this public librarians have a large part to

play after schooling is over. But the schools are under an obligation to do everything possible to prepare children for adult responsibilities during the relatively short time they have them within their walls.

Surveys have shown that the adult population of today is attaining only about fifty percent of its reading potential. Adults need both more speed and more comprehension and the lack of one hinders the other. The school people of the United States and of Montana are much concerned about this. They realize that the work we do with youngsters now will bear fruit with adults later. Consequently last October the schools of Montana started a pilot program confined for the present to the sixth grade in one rural school in each county. At the beginning of the program the pupils are given three tests: a speed test, a comprehension test and a combination of the two, the composits score being the most important. These tests are followed by drill and more tests. So far the results have been most encouraging. Last fall the state officials met with the county superintendents and explained the program to them. This year they will meet with teachers on a county-wide basis and will urge them to incorporate, into their teaching, methods that the program has proved to be feasible. Libraries are necessarily vital to this program. Anything that can be done to foster better libraries will be of aid to it.

Mrs. Moore mentioned the talk that Eilene Morrison had given to the county superintendents and she commented, also, on the Superintendents' enthusiastic response. She described the sample book-case which adapts itself to a school with inadequate library space because it can be kept closed and safely locked in an all-purpose room except when the room is in use for library purposes. She told of the colorful and attractive book covers made from wall paper samples or gift paper ironed out and available to schools that cannot afford plastic covers and that are faced with drab bindings when the original book covers are worn out.

Virginia Walton commended the dressing up of a book as part of the program of making reading attractive to children. She suggested that this could often be done in the classroom as an art project. She pointed out, however, that the use of plastic covers had a double value in that they saved the binding and this saving could be counted against the original cost of the covers. Eilene agreed that such covers should be purchased when possible and their advantages should be brought to school peoples' attention but she was of the opinion that the infinitesmal library budgets of some of our county schools often made it necessary to fall back on home-made substitutes. At this point the representative of Bro-Dart book covers, who was at the back of the room, was asked to give a demonstration of his product.

In connection with the use of plastic covers to save book-wear, Doris Wilson urged the need of teachers having knowledge of proper mending materials and methods. She emphasized especially the inadvisability of using scotch tape--seemingly the first recourse of the uninitiated. She advocated, as an economy measure, the buying of mending supplies at a county office and dispensing them to the individual county schools.

This turned the attention of the session to a consideration of ways in which teachers could acquire knowledge of mending methods. Helen Ewing informed the group that at the Glasgow Public Library the mending department was in the room from which the Valley County teachers picked up their books. The teachers who came there invariably expressed much interest in the mending. They asked pertinent questions and got new ideas. Clare Smith described the very successful workshop that

Doris Wilson had given for teachers in the Miles City area on Friday morning. She said this was the result of a similar workshop given by Miss Wilson in Missoula which some of those who had attended had been very anxious to have duplicated in other sections of the state.

The need for such workshops was stressed and a proposal was made that they might be put on by county superintendents or by county librarians--possibly by a county school librarian who might be very effective in bringing about better school library methods in counties that have a lot of one- and two-room schools. Mrs. Moore expressed regret that present budgets made it impossible to get such supervision from the county level in Montana. She added that any help the schools could get from the outside for mending or other demonstrations would be much appreciated. She asked if a reasonably profitable mending demonstration could be put on say between 3:30 and 5:30 P. M. She also made the comment that she would like to see one good library corner, embracing Eilene's ideas of attractive shelving and seating arrangements, colorful book jackets, etc., and including proper mending equipment, set up in each county. She was assured that from this model library corner the idea would spread to other schools in the county. With reference to mending, Lesley Heathcote remarked that she would be very pleased to try and arrange to release Doris for demonstrations. It was mentioned that Doris gives such instruction in the teacher-librarian courses at the college.

Other areas of cooperation between the public libraries and the schools, in addition to that of book mending instruction, were considered. It was repeated that too many school librarians were spending time in processing books that ought to be spent in serving children, a situation which could be greatly improved through cooperative book processing.

Cooperative book selection and purchasing were also recommended. Eilene Morrison suggested that county librarians should let teachers know about the tools they have which would be of help to teachers in their selection of books, and, that if the basic book selection tools were not available in a public library at the county seat then they should be available in the county superintendent's office.

Perl Coombes evinced regret that the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction had not put out a library list in recent years. Mrs. Moore explained that, since 1940, textbooks were no longer adopted on a state-wide basis and, because of the implications of the law passed at that time, state officials were reluctant to recommend certain books. She asked if it wouldn't be a good idea for the librarians to get out a list. To this Ellen Torgrimson replied that there were hundreds of good lists on the market and a new one would be superfluous. Mrs. Moore thought it might be helpful to have a bibliography of authorized lists.

Virginia Walton raised the question of high pressure book salesmanship and parents' as well as teachers' vulnerability to it. She spoke of the desirability of having the Subscription Books Bulletin and Children's Catalog available for evaluation and of publicizing the fact.

Ruth Longworth suggested that such publicity might take the form of several "lurid" articles in the local paper. She also remarked that there is a ruling that all rural school purchases must be approved by the County Superintendent but it is not generally carried out. Mrs. Moore informed the session that the State Superintendent's Office gets the "Hart evaluation of reference materials" that is put out by the Newark schools and distributes them to the County Superintendents.

Eilene Morrison emphasized that fact there are so few places where teachers in Montana can go and see books. They order sight unseen and

don't know what they are getting in the way of binding, illustrations, etc. Furthermore few of them know anything about the possibilities of pre-binding. Ellen Torgrimson spoke of the advisability of getting samples from publishers and sending displays to county-wide meetings. She said the Commission has sent some such displays. Mrs. Moore agreed that this was a good idea but she said it is best to make such displays a part of the program of the day. It is necessary to see to it that the display is talked about and discussed, otherwise it if often overlooked.

From the discussion of these particular areas of cooperation, the session went on to a more general discussion of means of bringing about cooperation between public and county librarians and teachers. Mrs. Taft was of the opinion that most teachers wanted to cooperate with librarians but usually they are untrained people. They don't know much about libraries. Public librarians need to let them know what services they can expect to get from a library before they can use it and before they can get out and help support it. Actually, Mrs. Taft reiterated, communities don't know enough about library service to express their wants.

Kathleen Campbell suggested that the Commission's field workers, when visiting public libraries, might be able to make the opportunity to bring teacher librarians and other librarians together. Ruth Longworth expressed the conviction that it would be a good thing if county superintendents would invite the city librarians to fall meetings. Mrs. Moore acquiesced. She insisted that advantage should be taken of all opportunities for such meetings. She also re-emphasized Mrs. Taft's remarks on the needs of libraries making their services known to the schools. She maintained that when a teacher is accustomed to library service she uses it; but she added, librarians must give lots of time to educating them. She suggested that to bring about opportunity for such understanding a librarian might take some mutual problem to a county superintendent's meeting and solicit the help of the teachers, thus capturing their interest, then follow this up with other meetings in which she tells them about services.

Eilene Morrison stressed, as she had in a previous session, that all of us must work with administrators. She instanced that administrators must be educated to the fact that teacher librarians need to have some time to work in the libraries. All hours must not be taken up with teaching so that library work has to be done after hours if done at all. When someone asked if this was not taken care of by state requirements, Eilene replied that requirements are often overlooked. If the state could have a person go around and evaluate the school libraries it might help to bring this matter to the foreground.

Mrs. Moore inquired if it would be practical for the county library to have an administrator's visiting day. Since administrators are crowded for time, it might be well to get some influential people who are friends both of the library and of the different administrators, or someone on the school board, to invite the administrators to the library and then use the time to show them all the ways in which the public library might cooperate with the schools, thus getting the administrators interested in working for good library service on all levels.

The difficulty of working with city teachers was next advanced. It was stated that something more was needed than a tour of the library by teachers and children during book week, for instance, which did get them inside the library where they could see what was available but did not allow time for exploring areas of cooperation and discussion of common problems. It was indicated that even the more cooperative administrators seemed to find it dif-

ficult to arrange to give the public librarian sufficient time on their crowded programs.

Elizabeth Pittman remarked that when the Lewistown Public Library commenced to work with the schools, the administrator agreed to bring the school teachers to the library on the regular meeting date. This afforded the librarian an excellent opportunity to sit down and talk to them. Mrs. Moore recommended the idea of asking the administrator for the privilege of having one of his regular meetings in the library as a policy to be followed by other librarians. Ruth Longworth was of the opinion that it would help if a suggestion came from the state office to the effect that it might be advisable for administrators to have librarians at their meetings and give them time to discuss common problems and programs. Mrs. Moore agreed to mention this in the state office and also to suggest that administrators be urged to seek for more cooperative programs in the matter of book mending and book selection.

. . . . . .

The meeting adjourned for a luncheon session at the Metropolitan Cafe, with Mrs. Kenneth M. Brown of the Miles City Carnegie Library Board presiding. Entertainment was provided by the Custer County Junior College students. The delegates were all somewhat weary after two very concentrated days of considering library problems and the lighthearted entertainment provided was just what they needed.

. . . . . .

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 P.M. for the final business session.

Rita McDonald, Secretary, announced the names of the House Subcommittee to consider the Library Services Bill which had been received via telegram by Mr. Clift and urged that individual letters in support of the bill be sent these members in addition to the letter from the Association.

Clare Smith read a letter of greeting from Jeane Lewis Sturdevant, Kalispell.

Cornelia Sherman read the report of Loretta Peck, chairman of the Committee on the 1950 Meeting Place. Kathleen Campbell moved that we accept an invitation to meet next year in Kalispell as reported by the Committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

Pauline Rich, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, read the Committee Report and moved its acceptance. The motion was seconded by Lesley Heathcote who in doing so informed the membership that as author of the second part of the resolutions regarding lurid cover designs on paperbound reprints which are a misrepresentation of the book's contents, the committee were in no way attempting to impose censorship but merely asking the book publishers to use common sense. As a matter of fact the resolution was designed to encourage sensible publishing policies with the view to improving a situation that might otherwise give censor-minded individuals an opportunity to agitate for censorship. The motion for acceptance was put to a vote and carried.

President Ruth Longworth called on Secretary Rita McDonald for a repot on the resolution passed at the morning Trustees and Friends of the Library session. Rita stated that those who met at the morning session wished to have the following recommendations presented to the business session for Association action:

> That there should be formed within M.S.L.A. an informal division or committee of lay people, which committee would represent the Friends of the Library who are associate members of M.S.L.A. and which committee would head up any activities that such members might wish to take, as lay friends, in support of libraries and library development in the state.
>
> That Harriette Cushman be named chairman of such a committee and Mrs. Wehr secretary-treasurer and that Miss Cushman be instructed to select a corres-

ponding secretary from among friends or associate members who live in the vicinity of her place of residence.

It was also the thought of those present at the morning session, but such opinion was not embodied in a definite recommendation, that the Association might consider making changes in its constitution so as to give its Associate members a more official means of expressing their lay interest and support through the M.S.L.A. organization. It was further suggested that funds should be made available to the suggested lay committee for necessary expense.

On the motion of Lesley Heathcote, the recommendations of the morning session were approved and it was directed that an informal committee be set up with the officers suggested but that consideration for changes in the constitution be deferred until next year.

Perl Coombs made an additional motion that the Friends of the Library Committee be permitted to draw funds for necessary expenses not to exceed $50. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mrs. Coombs further impressed on those present the desirability of one hundred percent participation of library trustees as associate members of M.S.L.A. She mentioned that in Iowa where there was such participation it was the practice of individual libraries to pay the dues for their trustees and she suggested that everyone take this idea home to their Board.

Kathleen Campbell made an announcement that there had apparently been some confusion in the minds of some people in the state as to the purpose for which tax money, ear-marked for the support of libraries, could be spent. There was some belief that such money could be used to establish a building fund rather than exclusively for operations. Kathleen moved that the incoming legislative committee ask the opinion of the Attorney General as to whether this was legal and that the opinion be filed with the State Library Extension Commission and the Montana State Library Association. This motion was seconded and carried.

Lesley Heathcote moved that the Montana State Library Association take over the mimeographing, editing and circulating of Montana Libraries, as an experiment for one year, with the understanding that the mimeographed publication would be larger than hitherto and would be distributed free to all members and associate members of the Association but a small charge would be made to others depending on the cost and furthermore that an attempt would be made to defray costs by soliciting advertisements. The motion was seconded.

In the discussion that followed it was mentioned that when published by the Commission, a state agency, the publication must be printed and cannot accept advertisements which means that Montana Libraries cannot afford an expanded publication. In answer to the query as to where we could get material to put in such a publication, Miss Heathcote replied that we could publish fuller proceedings and many news notes as well as pertinent articles. She said that Idaho finds its mimeographed publication an excellent medium to keep everyone informed as to what is going on. If we had such a publication we would be able to circulate it to our associate members as well as to the libraries and/or librarians in the state. Merwin Moores' query as to who would be available to edit the publication was answered by Mrs. Longworth who said the Executive Board had its eye on Miss Heathcote. There was some discussion of the undesirability of a change in format but the consensus appeared to be that this was not a serious difficulty and could be overcome. The Question was called and the motion carried.

Mrs. Longworth once again expressed her sincere appreciation to the

members and officers of the Association as well as all those from both inside and outside the Association who had participated in the meeting and presented the gavel to the new president, Virginia Walton.

In taking over the presidency, Miss Walton said that this was one of those occasions upon which she admired the temerity with which she sometimes approached a situation and said, "Yes" to a lot of work. However, she intended to share that work with others and those who elected her might be dismayed to find she was one of the "workingest" presidents the Association had yet known. However, she was not really concerned about the membership's reaction to being called upon for help. Two years ago it had been truly a pleasure to return to a state which is pioneering. In the Montana State Library Association we are all missionaries together. It is not a matter of one band or one individual doing all the work or taking the leadership. We have always set a high standard of co-operative effort and community interest but at intervals there comes a time for new direction and that Mrs. Schenk had brought to us at this meeting. In fact Miss Walton said she was convinced that Mrs. Schenk's coming to Miles City was one of the best things that has happened to the cause of library development in Montana.

Miss Walton went on to say that all of us must be continually looking for ways of promoting what is for the good of the libraries of our state. It is evident that we have been thinking in terms of greater areas of service but, she asked, "Are we talking about it?" She stressed the idea that "It does not do to underestimate the power of casual suggestion." We must have conviction in the future of library development and our thinking along this line must be translated into speaking about it to everyone with whom we talk and everyone with whom we work. Miss Campbell has said, we must keep our eyes on the ball.

Clare Smith thanked everyone for their cooperation in making the meeting a success and especially those who came from long distances to attend this meeting in a far eastern corner of the state; and she announced that it had been planned that a closing tea be given at the Library of the Veteran's Hospital by the Miles City Woman's Club but since this was National Hospital Week the tea was being given by courtesy of Uncle Sam for all visitors to the Hospital; however, there was to be a "very special" open house for librarians at the Library.

The meeting officially adjourned. Many, however, attended the open house and tea and announced it to be a very delightful ending to one of the most informative and inspiring meetings the Montana State Library Association has yet held.

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Jean Todd

Don't well short the value of science fiction as bait for your young readers. The Youth Rooms of the East Orange, New Jersey Free Public Library include science fiction in the science section. "Thus science fiction and books like "Across the Space Frontier" are intershelved with the 500's and biographies of scientists---a painless means of encouraging the use of this section." To those librarians who find it hard to sell themselves on science fiction, the author recommends: Issac Asimov's PEBBLE IN THE SKY and I, ROBOT; Arthus C. Clarke's ISLAND IN THE SKY and EXPEDITION TO EARTH; Ray Bradbury's MARTIAN CHRONICLES; Robert Heinlein's BETWEEN PLANETS and RED PLANET; Chad Oliver's MISTS OF DAWN; Hal Clement's NEEDLE; and Jack Williamson's HUMANOIDS.

From "Using Science Fiction as Bait," by Learned T. Bulman, Head, Youth Service Free Public Library, East Orange, New Jersey. LIBRARY JOURNAL, December 15, 1955.

* * * * * * * * *

No Montana librarian will want to miss JUNIOR LIBRARIES' January 15 issue which is devoted to exhibits, and is crowded with practical advice for the jack-of-all-trades librarian who must plan and carry out posters, signs, and window displays even though her art background is meager. A few pointers from this issue:

1. Put exhibits and public relations first on your agenda. Think about them when your mind is fresh. Save routines for later.
2. Spend your time thinking and planning, not just cutting and pasting. If you don't letter easily, don't letter; (see page 5) save your time for more professional work than lettering and have a professional sign painter make a sign for less than your time costs the library
3. Don't be a string saver. If you believe that more support for the library program would be one of the best investments the community could make, don't be afraid to come up with plans that cost money. Anything that saves your time saves the community something it is paying good money for.
4. Surprise, cahnge, and interesting detail are three important ingredients of good exhibits.

* * * * * * * * *

WEEDING AND DISCARDING

Marjorie Vivian

The difficulties involved in maintaining a live, working book collection concern small and medium-sized school, college, and public libraries everywhere. Howard F. McGaw discusses this problem in his article, "Policies and Practices in Discarding", published in the January 1956 issue of Library Trends. While his article is intended primarily for the college librarian, the subject matter is also of interest to public librarians. The following summary should prove helpful to anyone considering a weeding or discarding program.

College librarians have long been concerned about the size of their collections. Twenty years ago Louis Shores said that the average undergraduate library should be highly selective and definitely limited in size and scope; and that if 500 new titles were purchased each year, 500 old works should be weeded out for discard. The result will be a highly serviceable library with a collection of basic books and an ever-changing selection of ephemeral material. Others have expressed similar ideas. What has been said of college libraries applies with equal force to school libraries and with even more force to most public libraries.

In order to distinguish between the terms "weeding" and "discarding", Mr. McGaw states that when a book is discarded, it is weeded, but that when it is weeded, it is not necessarily discarded. To keep library collections up to date, hundreds of thousands of volumes are weeded out every year, but most of these volumes are simply shifted from active shelves to other locations where borrowers will be less conscious of them. "Weeding" then, is the practice of discarding or transferring to storage superfluous copies, rarely used books and material no longer of use. Discarding is the official withdrawal of volumes from the library collection because they are unfit for further use or are no longer needed.

Many librarians talk about the desirability of weeding, but few take action, probably for the following reasons: (1) the book has long been regarded as a sacred object; (2) there is always the possibility that somebody might need the book in the future; and (3) the natural tendency to put off the process until some indefinite date when there will be more money, more staff, or more time. The author reputes these arguments by saying that when a volume has lost its "spark" or its utility, it is just so much paper, ink, and cloth waiting to be discarded. Only our large research institutions can afford to shelve all books until the distant day when somebody shows up to use them. The only way a non-research library can keep within its financial and space budgets is to provide what is needed, not for everybody, but for its own special clientele, and not for all time, but for today. The way to avoid putting off the task or of being forced into an unsystematic, wasteful and fatiging ordeal of discarding, is to establish a continuous discarding policy with systematic completion of the process every year or so.

In his own new and relatively small collection at the University of Houston, Mr. McGaw has set up a systematic schedule for weeding that results in complete coverage of the library, about every five years. He says, "There is no discarding program on record without its mistakes, and some of these mistakes will cause trouble. We simply have to 'exercise the best judgement we can command, humbly, not arrogantly, and risk the consequences'."

Very few libraries have a written policy in respect to discarding, but it is generally agreed that book discarding and book acquisition are part of the same process. A library's book collection policy, therefore, determines its discarding policy. The same qualifications that are required in competent book selecting are needed in eliminating unsuitable volumes from the collection. "No matter what kind of formula is used, the decision to discard must be made, at last, on the merits of the individual volume. Except in a research library, where even the most trivial pamphlet may be needed for documentation, the librarian should feel justified in discarding any book for which he anticipates, in the near future, no further demand, especially if he has evaluated this demand in terms of the 'volume, value and variety' suggested by Helen E. Haines."

There is no easy way to answer the question: When is a book out of date? Usually an arbitrary time limit of five or two years is assigned. Books which have not circulated during that interval are considered inactive and may be weeded or discarded. The time factor depends on the type of material and the type of library. Most adults and children have an ingrained respect for the printed word found in libraries. We do our borrowers an injustice and give ourselves poor publicity when we allow obsolete information to circulate.

No two libraries will have exactly the same kind of material, collecting policy or clientele, and there-

fore will not be discarding the same things. Mr. McGaw offers the following general suggestions for discarding:

1. Duplicates. This is the easiest group and a relatively simple process especially for titles which have been on reserve in school or college libraries.
2. Unsolicited and unwanted gifts. Also fairly simple for the ones received without strings attached. Go slowly with the others and try to find some printed authority to back up your own judgement of inclusion or omision. In some instances, it may be wise to postpone discarding them.
3. Obsolete books. Give special attention to science, medicine and health, technology, geography, transportation, and travel. Watch for obsolete style and theme as well as for obsolete subject.
4. Superseded editions. Obsolescence applies to this category, too.
5. Books that are infected, dirty, shabby, worn out, too juvenile or too advanced.
6. Books with small print, brittle paper, or missing pages.
7. Unused, unneeded volumes of sets.
8. Periodicals with no indexes.

In his article, Mr. McGaw has stressed the need to discard continuously and to make it a standard routine. In concluding, he says that C. B. Roden's notion of the public library of the future corresponds to Shores' idea of the college library. In both cases the collection would "consist of a nucleus or core of the books of permanent value, rigidly and competently selected and kept in condition by equally competent discarding and the full recognition of ...'book obsolescence', a malady with which most libraries are afflicted and which few of us have dared to attack."

SUGGESTED READING

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Reyner, Helen C.: Lest They Haunt You. Library Journal, 72:197-199, February 1, 1947.

Woods, D. A.: Weeding the Library Should be Continuous. Library Journal, 76:1193-1196, August 1951.

(Summary by Marjorie E. Vivian of an article by Howard F. McGaw in Library Trends, January 1956.)

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News and Notes

The Pacific Northwest Library Association will meet in Pullman Washington, August 29, 30, and 31, with Washington State College and the University of Idaho as joint hosts. Eli Oboler, the first PNLA President from Idaho, will undoubtedly present a lively program. As this conference will be relatively nearby for Montana librarians, it is hoped that many of them will attend, especially as our own Alma Jacobs will be installed as 1956/57 President.

****

The Alberta Library Association will meet in Lethbridge May 23. The President, Phyllis Bowlby, has extended a cordial invitation to Montana librarians to attend. Perhaps some of our Highline folks can arrange to go for a day, at least. The Albertans are a lively group and we have much in common.

****

The American Library Association meets at Miami Beach June 17-23. John Richards of the Seattle Public Library is President and he has promised a lively and streamlined conference.

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The Idaho Librarian for January 1956 reports the membership totals for the Idaho State Library Association as 128 individual and 38 institutional. At that time M.S.L.A. had 91 active and 70 associate. Let's get every active librarian in Montana to join the State Association; they are all needed.

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The Oregon Library Association is offering a scholarship of $150 to assist an outstanding person to attend library school.

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Dr. Frederick Kuhns, former dean of the chapel at Rocky Mountain College, is now acting Librarian there.

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Lewistown is engaged in planning an addition to the Carnegie Public Library which will also involve some remodeling of the present building. This is being made possible through a citizen's bequest.

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The Parmly Billings Memorial Library is up to its ears in amateur uranium prospectors. Jean Todd reports that since the discovery in the Pryor Mountains, Sunday excursions with Geiger counters are interspersed with weekday descents upon the Library for books on anything remotely connected with uranium. It must be nearly as bad as the Tangle Town contests that a number of city libraries in other parts of the country have had to endure.

****

Lucille Simpson, formerly Librarian at Great Falls, and before that a member of the Billings Library staff, is now located in Bisbee, N. D., where she and her sister are keeping busy and prosperous with a ready-to-wear store.

****

The Billings Library's monthly television visit with "Billie" is estimated to be reaching 40,000 people. The response to the how-to-do-it books has been enormous from people who "didn't know the Library had that kind of book." The program on Lenton reading brought requests for books on the Dead Sea Scrolls.

****

Co-operative Film Services in Pub. Libraries, published by A.L.A. in April at $2.00, tells how several libraries can cooperate in setting up a service that none of them separately could afford. It should have considerable interest for us in Montana.

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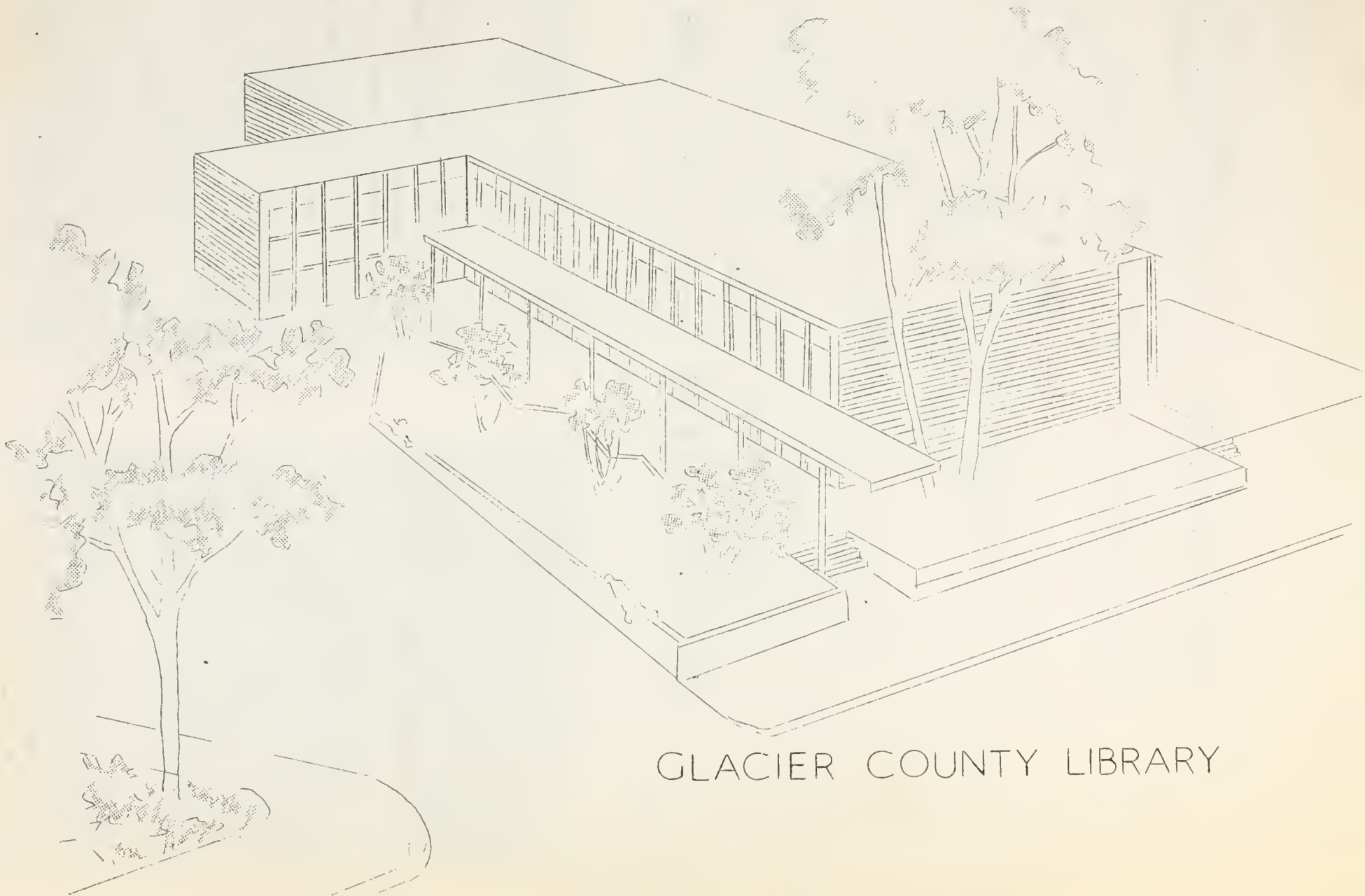

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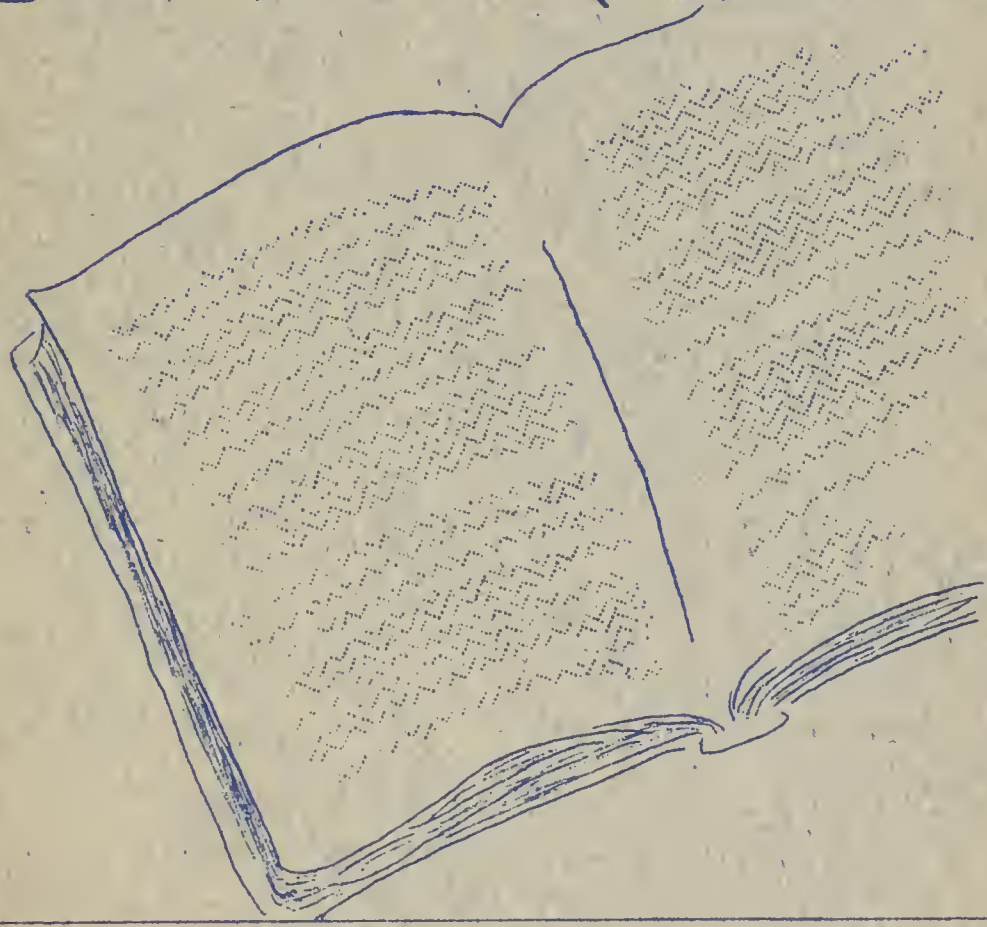
July 1956
Volume 1
No. 4

MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY



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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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THE MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Official Publication of the Montana State Library Association

Volume 1, No. 4 July 1956

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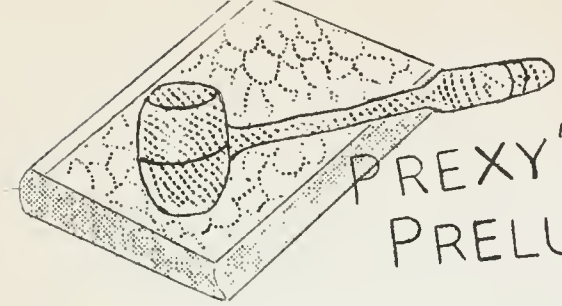


PREXY'S PRELUDE

Plutarch once said "No man ever wetted clay and then left it as though bricks would be made by chance or fortune".

During the past year we have wetted the clay. We made our motto "Know and Grow". We have examined ourselves and our responsibilities to our communities. We have looked very closely at the services we are giving. Were we exerting as much leadership in our communities as we might? Were we interpreting our library collections and services to the community to the fullest degree? Were we constantly looking for the new ideas to try? We have endeavored to know ourselves and our communities by close examination so we could grow.

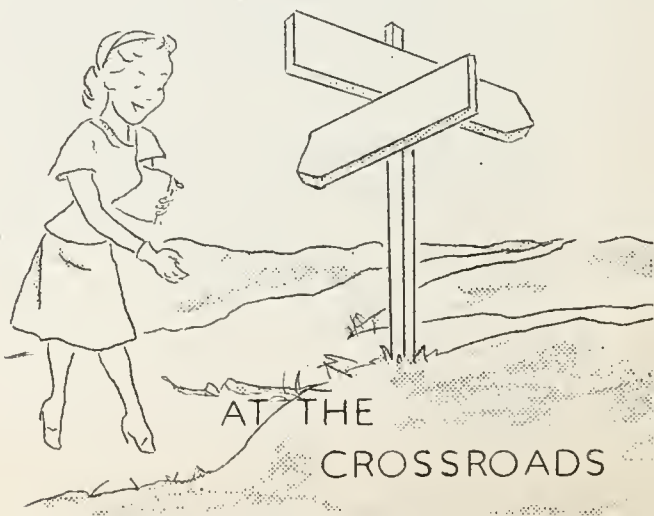
The culmination of this year of knowing ourselves was met at our conference in Kalispell. At this conference we wetted the clay for the bricks we must build in '56. We cannot leave the bricks to chance or fortune or the clay will dry and be of no use or value.

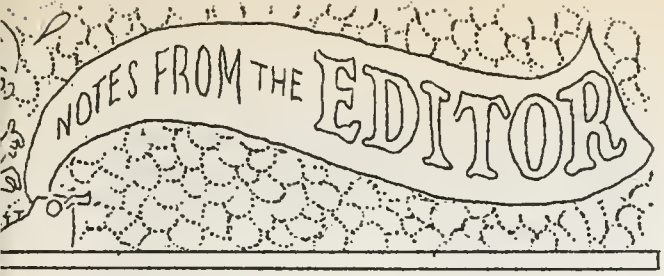
The first of two bricks we must build while the clay is wet is the brick of development under the library services bill. How are we going to extend our services so that we will be eligible for Federal Aid? How are we in our own libraries going to take books and reading to wider areas than those who now come to us because they already have an interest in reading? How are we going to give more of ourselves and our services for each tax dollar so we will become vital and alive to everyone, within a radius of perhaps 50 to 80 miles? We must start building that brick at once and sending our ideas to the State Library Extension Commission.

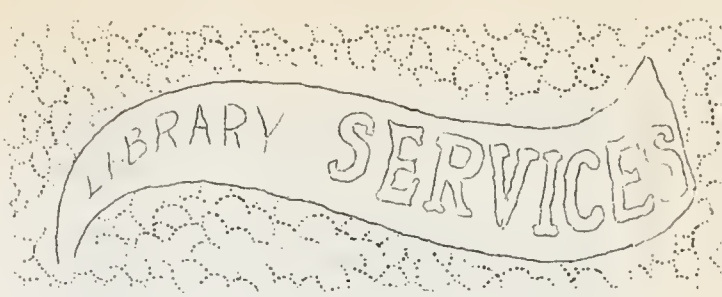
The other brick we must build at once while the clay is wet is the brick of support for the State Library Extension Commission budget in the 1957 legislature. Work must be done NOW by you in your own community. Every legislator or camdidate for legislature should be approached before election and told what the State Library Extension Commission means to Montana and to your community. He must be told that the State Library Extension Commission cannot exist without money and that you expect him to support the Commission. Remember your legislator represents you, you elect him, your wishes are important to him and so be certain to talk to him.

We have a wonderful State Friends of the Library group working for us now, but remember the old saying "God helps them who help themselves". Because our Friends will give of their time, energy, and money to secure adequate money for us, makes us all the more obligated to work harder ourselves to merit their interest, confidence, and trust. We are the skilled workers hired to build the bricks. The bricks of adequate support and the extension of good library service. The skilled workers need helpers. Our Friends of Libraries are our helpers only, primarily it is up to us. Can we do it? Yes. Will we do it? The answer lies within each and every one of us. Let's build those bricks in '56!

MONTANA LIBRARIES...



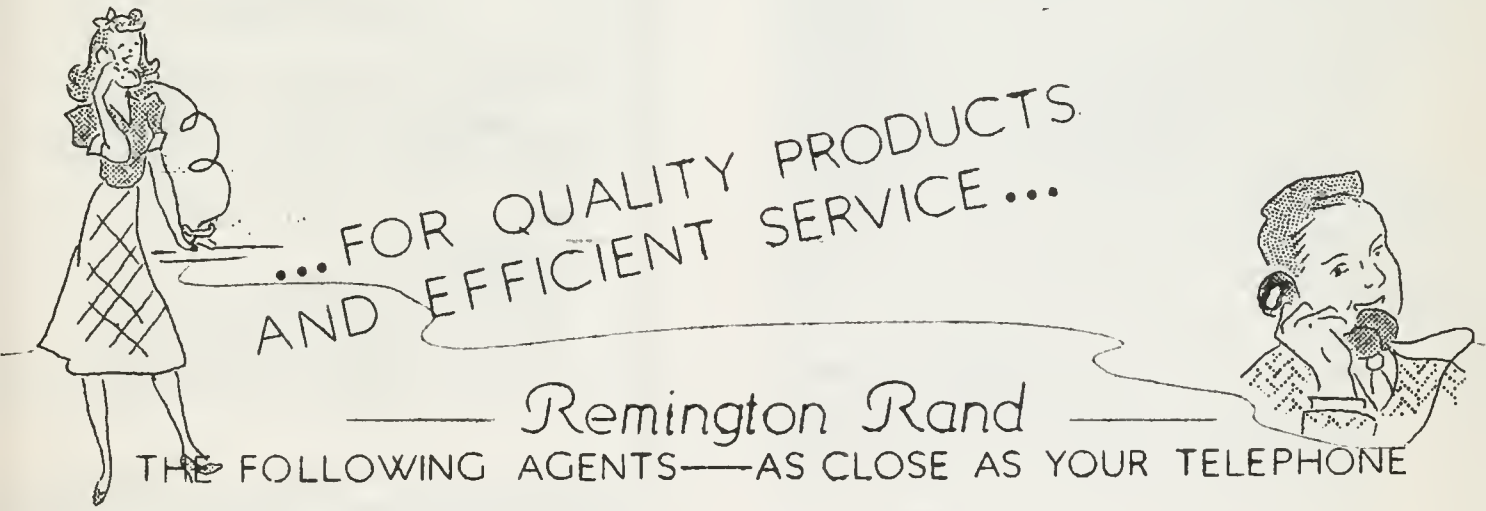




With the passage through both House and Senate of the Library Services Bill, a new era should now dawn for Montana. At last it will be possible to strengthen and extend the library coverage in this State, and at a very moderate cost.

Those of you who attended the very excellent conference in Kalispell will recall that in his talk Dr. Lieberman told of putting out copies of popular magazines on the returning troopship where the men virtually fell over them, and how in a short time every man was absorbed in reading. What people have not experienced they do not want, but when they have found the magic, the release, and the help that books give, most of them want more. If we believe in our profession, if we are concerned about the welfare of our people, if we care about the future of our country we will want to place before everyone the accumulated wisdom of mankind. Sometimes the type of reading our clients do may not seem very elevating, but at least the acquisition of the reading habit means some progress, and we can always hope for better things.

The theme of the 1955 MSLA Conference in Miles City was Congregate, Cooperate, Coordinate and now the time has come for us to put this slogan into practice. We have all congregated at various times, most of us have cooperated, but to these we must now add "coordinate" and truly mean it.



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CHALLENGES TO MODERN LIBRARIANSHIP

by John S. Richards*

It is a privilege to bring you greetings from the American Library Association. There is nothing perfunctory about this message from the national association, I assure you, for ALA has a real appreciation of the part the state and regional associations are playing in the development of libraries and librarianship throughout this country. ALA congratulates Montana on the progress it is making.

Today I wish to speak of some of the challenges we face as we take stock of our present position and look to the future. In my inaugural address at Philadelphia I outlined advances which libraries have made in the last half-century--the development of strong state and regional associations, the establishment of ALA indowment funds, the growth of adult education activities, the establishment of the Washington Office, the publication of such definitive studies as The National Plan for Public Library Service and The Public Library Inquiry. All these point to a maturing profession and the development of a network of libraries increasingly important in American life. In the thirty-five years that I have been a member of ALA, we have increased our coverage from forty percent to over eighty percent of our population. Of course, we must hasten to remind ourselves that twenty-seven million Americans still are without libraries and other millions have very poor service. Thus our progress, which has been appreciable, should not make us complacent, but should give us courage and incentive to continue and to increase our momentum.

What are some of the challenges we face as we take stock of our present position and look toward the future? First, I should like to speak of the challenge of books, or, if you will, the challenge of ideas, for libraries must, by their stock in trade, deal with ideas, and the development of libraries in America has come about within the framework of our traditional freedom of thought and expression. The library's stand against censorship and anti-intellectualism has been fundamental to its very life.

Books, then and the ideas they contain are not commodities to be carelessly passed over a counter; rather they are the measure of our humanity and the means by which man in each generation advances a step further in civilization and culture.

From the Freedom to Read Statement you will remember the following: "We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant... Books are the major channels by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down and the principal means of its testing and growth." If we have this awareness of the importance of books and ideas, then we cannot take books for granted. They become a challenge to every librarian--the challenge of

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getting the right book to the right person at the right time; the challenge of non-readers, some of whom are college graduates; the challenge of breaking through the anti-intellectualism of the moment which belittles the life of the mind; the challenge to see that all our citizens are exposed to ideas so that they may grow in stature and be prepared to take their places in the confused and rapidly changing world in which we find ourselves in this mid part of the twentieth century.

These challenges mean that the librarian must be aware of the dynamic nature of books and use them professionally in somewhat the same way that a doctor prescribes for his patient. I do not suggest that librarians become expert social workers and perform case work, but that through extensive knowledge of books and an interest in people we can become expert in getting the right book in the hands of a person who has need of it.

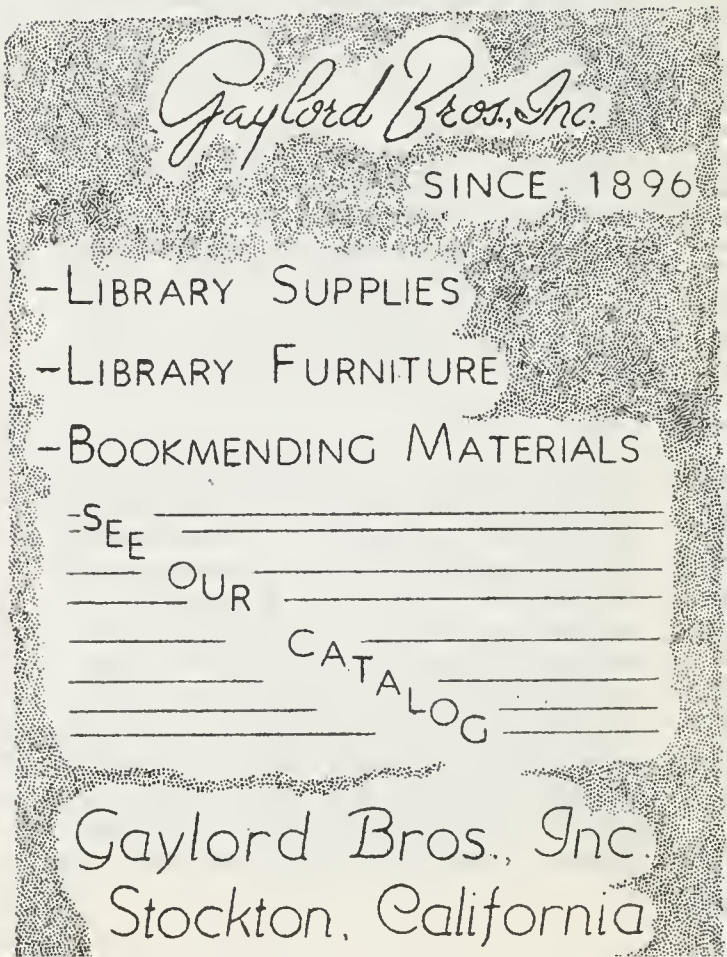
For example, may not Alan Paton's "Cry, the Beloved Country" be of greater value to an understanding of the racial problem in South Africa than a long list of books by travelers and observers, no matter how competent? This novel is a distillation, the very essence of the tragedy and injustice now taking place. Or take Pearl Buck's recent autobiography, "My Several Worlds" as a must in understanding China and the Orient. Mrs. Buck is a product of two civilizations and is in the unique position of thoroughly understanding both the East and the West, so that she can serve as a bridge or interpreter between two highly dissimilar ways of life.

Each of you here today can quickly suggest other examples of books which are beacons to understanding. The point I am trying to make is that we librarians must believe in books so profoundly that we can make books important to our patrons, even those who are non-bookish by nature. We should constantly remind ourselves that only about one-quarter of the adult population reads actively or purposefully. Certainly this presents a challenge to those of us who believe in books as a chief source of ideas.

We librarians, who deal regularly with books and are on familiar terms with them, must realize that many people who lack this familiarity do not approach books and ideas with assurance and with confidence, and this brings me directly to my second challenge, the challenge of education.

Perhaps the library's tendency to limit its service rigidly to the use of printed materials has contributed to the popular idea that the library is a place for children and for the minority of adults who are especially well educated. In spite of our high rate of literacy and good general education, there remains a popular prejudice against scholarly pursuits and the well-read man. "Egghead" is one of the more recent terms of disparagement.

In some way librarians must bridge this chasm between books and the everyday world, and there is evidence



that the rapidly developing adult education movement may be filling the gap. What we call "adult education" must today meet a new challenge. Suddenly our people face a whole host of problems brought about by the world crisis. These problems have to do with personal living and family life as well as the individual's relationship to his community--local, national, international. The explosive change in the old settled order brings questions for which past experience does not provide answers, and so we must all go on learning through life.

In the past, our formal education has done pretty well in promoting expertness and efficiency in vocational training but much less well in the management of private and public affairs. This has led to an increasing awareness by the average citizen of his need to be better informed, and so there has arisen a great interest in adult education.

I hope you have all had an opportunity to see the Fifty-fifth Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education, recently published under the editorship of our own David Clift. In this you will find chapters on "What do Adults Read?", by Lester Asheim, and "The Role of the Public Library in Adult Reading", by Grace Stevenson. The chapter on "The Role of the College Library in Adult Reading" by Arthur Hamlin indicates that our colleges and universities have come a long way in developing informal adult education programs for their students.

In this volume the chapter on "Adult Education" by Dr. Cyril Houle is the one I wish to refer to. Dr. Houle quctes Morse Cartwright as saying that before June 1924 the term "adult educatopm" was not in use in the United States of America. At the same time, however, Mr. Cartwright intimates that nearly fifteen million persons were participating with some regularity in activities which they regarded as educational. Dr. Houle thinks that Cartwright was correct in believing that he was dealing with a new term and a new idea. In the past, the many institutional forms in which mature people learned or taught were separate, each with its own aims. In the 1920's Cartwright and other leaders realized that all these institutions embodied a common idea and sought a common end. Dr. Houle estimates that the fifteen million involved in adult education in 1924 had grown to twenty-two million in 1934, to twenty-nine million in 1950 and to nearly fifty million in 1955. Dr. Houle concludes that this tremendous involvement in adult education in the last thirty years is doing three things. It is stimulating individual participants to do more about their adult education than they have done in the past; it is counteracting the stultifying influences of mass communication--a counterbalance to the drift toward the mass man; and finally it is developing leaders for our society.

Recently, through grants from the Fund for Adult Education, ALA has been able to experiment with new techniques. The Adult Education Survey was made possible by these grants, as was the American Heritage Project, an adaptation of the Great Books Program, one of the pioneer adult education programs carried by libraries. The adult education sub-grant project enabled individual libraries to try their wings in developing experimental programs. More recently, we have had the consultant service specializing in the fields of leadership training, program planning, community analysis and the use of audio-visual materials. This service is offered on a nation-wide basis but it is channeled largely through state and regional associations, stimulating them to offer workshops and institutes at state and regional meetings.

Another recent development is the Library in the Community Project, which undertakes to relate the library's adult education activities to the total community. Four states, Maryland, Kansas, Michigan, and Tennessee, have been designated as grant

areas for a two-year period. In each grant area one library--metropolitan, county or regional--is selected for a pilot project in the development of a plan for a long-range program. In these four test states there will be an attempt to increase the potential for adult education by making the program an integral part of the library administration and organization, properly related to all other library activities and to the total community which the library serves.

From this it can be seen that ALA in the last few years has made great progress in bringing the library's part in adult education into clear focus. Librarians of both large and small libraries are coming to understand their role in community-wide adult education, and through the experimentation made possible by the Fund for Adult Education, procedures and know-how are developing.

What are the distinguishing characteristics of library adult education? In the recent announcement of leadership training awards by the Fund for Adult Education we find this definition and explanation of their interest in liberal adult education:

"Liberal adult education is concerned with continuing improvement of the mature individual in the responsible exercise of his freedom, both as a private person and as a citizen in a free society."

"For the purpose of this program, liberal adult education is distinguished from remedial, vocational, technical, avocational and mental health education. These distinctions are respectful of the importance of all kinds of adult education, but are necessary for a focus of effort on liberal adult education, which is neglected and which is essential to the future of the free society."

We know that the Fund for Adult Education has selected the public library as one of the agencies best qualified to develop and carry on liberal adult education, and it is important now for librarians to have the vision to grasp these opportunities.

As libraries undertake an increasingly large program of adult education, there are two things we must bear in mind; first, books are worthless unless the ideas and inspiration they contain can somehow be conveyed to the minds of men, and second, and here I repeat, approximately three-fourths of our adults seem not to be bookish or at home in the world of print. In other words, some of our most effective liberal adult education may begin with the so-called non-book materials.

In Seattle, our use of films has probably attracted more new patrons than any other service we have employed. Last year our 688 films were shown to over 650 thousand people in programs given throughout the city. We know that new borrowers invariably have to be sent first to the registration desk to secure borrower's cards.

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Since each of these documentary films has something to say in today's troubled world, it would be impossible to overestimate the importance of the impact on the community of these film showings. We also know that the film showing and the discussion following frequently lead directly to books.

Or take the case of a collection of great music recofds,which in Seattle have had a large circulation for almost twenty years. The thousands of people who have used and enjoyed these transcriptions have undoubtedly secured more real music appreciation than if they had read all the books on the subject several times over.

We must not overlook educational television, which seems likely to play a large part in the development of liberal adult education. Recently one of our talented Seattle women, Mrs.Elizabeth Wright Evans, who is educational director of our first and largest commercial television station, was called to Louisiana, where the librarians of that state came together for a conference on educational television. These included librarians from both large and small libraries and many of them had never seen a television camera. Mrs. Evans,in telling about the week-long conference on her return to Seattle,reported that the commercial television men who had been called in as resource people approached the conference with the idea that these librarians were primarily interested in promotional programs which would increase library circulation. This impression was soon corrected, however, by the librarians themselves, who announced in no uncertain terms that the libraries wanted to use television for education per se,whether or not these programs ever circulated a book. As a result, the week was a very fruitful one, with the librarians learning much about the production of television shows and the commercial television staff learning that the public library was a rich source of information and a fertile field for program ideas.

Perhaps the greatest challenge to libraries is in the broadening base of community interest and support which takes place when the library multiplies its community contacts. Co-sponsored programs by the library with a wide range of groups and activities will acquaint many of our citizens with the diverse contributions which the library can make.

Out of this broadening base will come the opportunity to help our individual citizens to find answers to the perplexing questions which face all of us. Just recently, as President of ALA,Ireceived from a Los Angeles woman a plea that Ala cert appropriate influence in support of the Constitution of the United States as related to Miss Lucy of Alabama, who wished to become a librarian. In my reply I explained that the only possible action by ALA would be one which implemented a specific ALA policy and policy can be made only by the Council. I went on to say that as to the influence which librarians should bring to bear in any situation where the people we serve are struggling for a solution, we cannot attempt to give the solution, but we must help all the people to arive at their own solution. This, historically, has been the role of librarians in the development of our free society in America. It is,I believe, destined to be of great influence and assistance now when Americans everywhere are struggling,with widely varying and deeply felt convictions, to cope with some very difficult problems. The old slogan is as good today as it was when we first used it: "The library does not tell people what to think, but it has a definite responsibility to tell them what to think about."

I now come to one of our very practical challenges, the challenge of financial support and library coverage. This is a challenge with which the librarians of Montana and Washington are familiar. Recent statistics show that ten percent of Washington people are without local public library service and the Montana figure

is over twenty-four percent. This situation is serious, since it means that almost a quarter of Montana people have no library facilities whatever and others have such poor service as to be negligible. As a result a considerable portion of Montana citizens are without the means of up-to-date information and cannot avail themselves of the library services playing to large a part in the continuing education necessary if the citizens in a democracy are to be prepared to make wise decisions and to play their part in the democratic process.

I am aware of the valiant efforts of Montana librarians to up-grade libraries in this state and to provide more adequate coverage. We have all come to realize, however, that librarians cannot do the whole job, and that we must have the active support and enthusiastic help of lay people truly representative of the community. This brings us to the key position of your State Library Commission. I was pleased last night to hear Miss Campbell outline plans for the revamping of the Commission which will enlarge it and give it a more purposeful job to do. Your State Library Commission must become the means of communication from this Association to the citizenry of your state. Organizations like the PTA, AAUW, and the farm and labor organizations must be made to realize their responsibility to libraries. They should take an active part in lobbying for funds and legislation. In Washington we have demonstrated the greater effectiveness of lay representatives to our State Legislature. The impatient response to librarians "So you're back again!" has changed to a respectful hearing when we are represented by citizens.

At this conference I have frequently heard the statement that "Montana is different", and you dafinitely are unique in certain ways. The third lragest state in the Union, your total popylation is less than that of metropolitan Seattle. This means that it will be more difficult to establish libraries at the local level and that Montana needs both state and federal aid.

Here, of course, is where the Library Services Bill will give us a much needed lift. This national legislation, which has been in prospect for ten years, now seems in a favorable posotion for passage at this session of Congress. It is ideally drawn to advance the development of larger area service. The funds available under this bill are to be used exclusively for rural areas and must be matched by state funds. Since the legislation has a five year terminal date, iy seems likely that rural areas will be stimulated to develop plans for local financing which will be both realistic and practicable.

Most, if not quite all, of the states have readied plans so that they may take advantage of these funds when

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view and because of your letters, the American Library Association Executive Board at midwinter authorized the establishment of a public relations office which will this year begin to cope with our three related problems--recruiting for librarianship, public relations and membership promotion. And so I would hope that you could envision ALA not as another organization apart, but as an extension of your own library program and of the important business being carried on by your state association.

Today I have discussed briefly with you three challenges to librarianship --the challenge of books and ideas, the challenge of liberal adult education, and the challenge of financial support and library coverage. These challenges are interdependent, for unless we librarians have a dynamic philosophy of the book which encourages us to plan programs which will reach and serve all the people, we have no right to ask for an ever increasing portion of the tax dollar, and conversely, if our programs are sound, if they meet the real needs of the people and are not merely what we, in our library fastnesses, think the people ought to want, we will ultimately secure the patronage and support of our citizens.

Our libraries, both public and university, can provide for every individual the self-realization which we know to be in the great American tradition. Our system is based on the recognition of the worth of the individual and his participation in his government. Our libraries have evolved as a chief instrument in this process. We can be proud of our achievement but we must not slacken or pause at a time when our services are needed as never before. Our aim must be to see that every American has the equivalent of the best service now being given by any library today; they are available, and I would suggest today that this planning has been enormously worthwhile, entirely aside from the prospects held out by the Library Services Bill. As a result of this planning we are becoming less parochial and less narrow in our approach to library service.

If I have a special message for you as President of the American Library Association it is the wish that we may all see the library in broad outline against the swiftly moving events of our time. Librarians are adapting services to meet new needs, but are we moving fast enough? How best can we share the library yeast that is fermenting throughout our state and regional library associations? How make sure that our librarians are prepared to swing into action quickly to meet new demands or even emergencies? Of one thing I am sure; we must enlist more librarians and more laymen in various organizations which are attacking these problems at both the local and the national level.

Our ALA membership of over twenty thousand may seem large but it represents only a fraction of the people working in and for libraries throughout this country. Every librarian or trustee who is not plugged in to a professional organization by means of active membership is working without benefit of a power source which gives our libraries their momentum and their direction.

The American Library Association is important to all libraries and to every librarian because it represents the combined force of all of us. Through ALA we make ourselves felt. Without ALA we would have no Freedom to Read Statement and it would be unlikely that fifteen senators and twenty-seven representatives in our national Congress would be actively sponsering the Library Services Bill. Without ALA it would be well nigh impossible to secure the overall view which allows us to chart the library course and to meet rapidly changing conditions. Because of this overall

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Inez Herrig has been reappointed Chairman of the Libraries Division of the General Federation of Women*s Clubs.

EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP:
LIFELONG NOT TERMINAL

By Irving Lieberman

On my first visit to Montana (I have only been here about forty-eight hours) I am impressed by one idea, and that is, that we need to sell librarianship throughout the state. If library service is to become a part of the daily lives of all of our people, it must be advertised and sold over and over again.

The other aspect to be considered is that we need library service everywhere. We talked about the idea of a larger unit library in the session this morning. The point was emphasized that we are not talking about fewer libraries when we talk about the larger unit of service. This is a larger administrative unit and the centralization of technical services but the distributing points for lirary materials need to be increased. The library outlet needs to be close to the user, and we need more of them for proper coverage.

Another interesting facet about libraries appeared in a study some years ago sponsored by the National Opinion Research Center of the University of Denver. We are so sold on the idea of librarianship ourselves that we can't understand how it is that other people, the lay citizens, can't appreciate good library service. There were two questions in this poll that point this up; namely: "If there were no public library in this city, how much difference would it make to you personally?" and secondly, "If there were no public library in this city, how much difference do you think it would make to the city?" In response to the first question people replied: Great Deal - 21%; Quite a Bit - 16%; and Not Much - 61%. In response to the second question people replied: Great Deal - 78%; Quite a Bit - 16%; and Not Much - 2%. Do you see this distinction? John Q. Citizen thinks the public library is a good thing but for someone else to use. This is an interesting set of percentages in the light of citizen interest and participation in the development of library services.

This leads me to the question, "What do you, as librarians, know about your communities?" I mean--not have you really looked at your community statistically and not just as some subjective idea of comparative relationships.

Have you examined information studies about your town? Public utilities are always making studies of specific geographical areas which they serve. Have you ever looked at these studies? They report important facts about the standard of living, the salary level, the labor market, the leisure-time activities of the people and considerably more than I can list here. Have you ever thought of looking at these studies and making an analysis of them in terms of your library services in that particular community?

May I say that I don't believe you can really give good library service unless you have done something about community analysis and thought through very carefully the service pattern of your library and the needs of the people being served. This is related to book selection. How can you possibly buy books for a community unless you know something about it? This is true whether you are buying it for a faculty and students in an elementary school, in the public library for children or adult collection or in the college library in terms of subject content of the cirriculum. You must find out what the people in your area do to earn a living; how they spend their leisure time; what are their major problems. Then you can determine what the book selection of the library ought to be because it is related to what is going on in your particular community.

Community analysis not only takes into consideration the idea of knowing something about population, but also the social attitudes and situations in a community - all these things that affect human relations. Know specifically about people--their prejudices, customs, organizations. You will want to know about the formal and informal educational programs in the community so that you will avoid duplication and don't try to take over--instead, if the program is already very effective in your community, help it to be even better. The most important thing we can do is to tell the people about our resources. It is amazing to me how little the average citizen knows about library service. One of the most significant things a library can do is to assist in program planning. Perhaps you have never worked with community organizations, although I can't believe that you haven't been a chairman of some committee which was concerned with organization program content. There are hundreds of organizations in our communities that have program chairmen who must sit down with their committees to work out programs for the ensuing year. Community organizations do this all the time. Each year they wonder about content and then come up with some very very poor programs. The reason for this is that the materials resources for programs have not really been tapped. The library is the materials agency in the community. It can be the most effective force in insuring good programs, and yet program chairmen try to duplicate the materials function of the library by writing for information and materials from far away places rather than making use of the local library. Over and over again, this duplication takes place, and yet, in your many library tools, such as periodical indexes and vertical file material, you have the best program information.

Another unknown area is our special kinds of services for children, such as story hours, picture-book hours, programs for pre-schoolers.

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Recently, I have been interested in library services for the blind. Do you know that if someone in your community meets the legal definition of blindness, you can write Books for the Blind at the Seattle Public Library and have the Talking Books Service direct from that library without charge? It is the regional library for the states of Washington and Montana. Perhaps some of you have received ceiling projectors from your Lions Club for people who are bed-ridden. These projectors throw book pages on the ceiling. If you have people who are handicapped and cannot hold a normal book, you might want to investigate this service.

Probably the most significant thing we have to do, however, in librarianship, is to Change the Image - we must change the image of the librarian, the library, and of the library service. What of the librarian? Here we have a stereotype that the modern novel and Hollywood have emphadized. Librarians are known as quiet, mousy people who want to work undisturbed by themselves, away from people and the pressures of every day life. This is a dreadful conception because the main function of the librarian is to bring books and people together. Let's simplify our tec;nical processes and centralize them so that more time may be spent inreader guidance and the utilization of materials. In fact, it is here that we nedd to be really expert.

We want to change the image of the library, too. Let's not have all brown and tan old dark walnut furniture matched by dark wall paint. Let's not have monumental structures. The library belongs right at the curb with big store windows so that the citizen can see what is going on inside--the most important thing about the library is its day to day activity Let's show it off-- it's our best display. Another thing, the library itself is no longer considered a storehouse or a repository, but rather a fountain. Instead of putting books on shelves and keeping them there, we want to disperse them like a fountain. Books don't do anybody any good on shelves. They have to be in people's hands. We also think of the library as being a communication center. Today's library--is concerned with ideas and the ideas may be in any format. They may be recordings, they may be film-strips, they may be 16 mm. film,they may be pictures and they may also be radio and television. Patrons must be served by all kinds of materials and not by books alone.

We also need to change the image of the library service itself. Libraries are not charity organizations. We can't exist on donations and gifts. We must have tax support. We are just as important as any other public service in the community. The sooner we face the fact that a library cannot exist on a shoe string, the better service we are going to have.

Finally, I would like to have you join me in a quick look at library education. It seems to me that the libraries near one another (public libraries, school libraries, college libraries) must have some kind of exchange, such as discussion of books, activities of the library and a give-and-take on what is going on in that community. You could inspire each other to do a better job.

If you are fortunate enough, to have a small staff in your library, then you as the librarian must see that the staff gets this inspiration. You have to see that there is good communication within the staff itself and assistance in decision-making---one good area for staff discussion is the book selection policy. As was indicated this afternoon, it needs to be written down. Involve the staff so that by their participation they feel it is their policy too.

If you can, on a regional basis meet with librarians that are near you (I mean within 50 to 100 miles); work with them and solve problems jointly. It is wasteful to do these things in too small groups.

Not only does your staff need in-service education,but also the trustees and "friends" of libraries.

What is a trustee? What is a good trustee? This is something with which you must be actively concerned. Trustees cannot just come to meetings occasionally, approve a few bills and go home. This is not enough. Trustees should be alert to what the library is doing. Trustees should be the best library users. How can they possibly promote library service if they themselves don't use it? Do you know that there is now a correspondence course for trustees? We have just heard that one meaber of the Board at Richland, Washington subscribed to the course and the whole Board has become involved in it.

There should be a program of education for the rest of the citizens group too. If you can, you might want to organize a "Friends of Library" group in your community. I think if you do, you should realize that they are going to take some of your time. They can't exist unless you can plan activities for them and this means you must be prepared to work actively with them;.

Here in Montana, I think there is a 3-way responsibility for in-service education in the state, and that is, the Commission, the Montana State Library Association and the schools of higher education at which there are library sciences courses. The three agencies working together can make an important program of in-service education possible.

Let us turn for a moment now to the professional program of education for librarianship.

In the library schools of the United States, there is a consensus that the curriculum should ;concern itself with five areas, namely: (1) Foundations and philosophy of librarianship (2) Readers' services (3) Resources of libraries, both book and non-book materials (4) Tech;nical Services (5) Organization and administration of libraries. This is the basic content of our profession. It is these knowledges and skills that differentiate the professional librarian from the clerical worker in the library. I hope in the future that it might be brought to the attention of the library school student that one year of library education ;does not complete his professional preparation. It should be realized that when the student leaves the library school, his first year on the job constitutes an internship in effect. This was the basic conception in the Williamson study of library education, and means that the newly educated professional librarian is really beginning to earn his "pay" the second year after library school.

Another idea that needs recognition and some additional study is that in the main librarians feel that the one year program of education is terminal education. There is a feeling that there is no longer any need to think in terms of additional professional education. These librarians lose sight of the fact that libraries are dynamic institutions with new knowledge and skills appearing constantly. Such new developments create opportunities for short courses, institutes and workshops for further specific education of practising librarians in the newer ideas, tec;niques and knowledges. The organizations of such programs of education are the responsibility of ;the library schools.

At the University of Washington, the requirement for the degree is 45 quarter hours. This may be accomplished in 4 consecutive quarters or in 4 separate summer sessions. Library schools are expensive to organize and maintain. We don't need more library schools, we need fewer but stronger ones--stronger in terms of resources, library facilities and class room facilities and faculties with subject specialization.

As a final note, may I, urge you to help recruit for librarianship. The opportunities are many and the need for outstanding library leaders has not kept up with the demand. The fascinating thing about librarianship is that it is as challenging on the

last day before retirement as it was on the 1st day on the 1st job. If it is to remain this fresh to you, you must make it so. Continue to learn about your profession, in fact, education for librarianship must be truly life-long and not end with your first library appointment.

(Address given at the First General Session, May 4, 1956)

NOTICE

Upon the request of six members of the Montana State Library Association, a special meeting of the Association is being called for during the PNLA Conference in Pullman. The day and hour will be announced later. This meeting is to vote on a change in the Association By-Laws. Article IV, Section 2 of the By-Laws states that "The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the first Monday and Tuesday in May." Since we have been meeting the past two years on the first Friday and Saturday and Sunday in May, the Board thinks we should have this special meeting to change the By-Laws and make this new date legal. We would like to change Section 2 of Article IV to read "The annual meeting of the Association shall be held the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday in May."

Anyone opposing such a change should make their opposition known to the Board before the special meeting at PNLA or come prepared to vote in favor or against the change.

COMMENTS FROM A CUSTOMER

by Dorothy Johnson

I've been using libraries--and librarians--for something like forty years. So it's time to say thank you.

That's all I came for. I don't know beans about your problems and certainly can't help you solve any of them. Maybe I am one of them. I just came along to say thank you. I'm one of your customers--for free.

The first library with which I ever had contact was one I never saw. It was the collection of books in the Whitefish public schools long ago. That was the only library in town, too. School kids never saw that library. We were allowed one book a week, and we chose the book from a typewritten list of titles and authors. We picked our book, after much heart searching and guessing, sight unseen. It came from somewhere, and that was all for another whole week.

It's more fun when you can get right at the books and look at them and leaf through them. But one book, seledted by guess from a list of titles that may be misleading, is an awful lot better than no book.

Even way down in the lower grades, one book wasn't enough. We had a neighbor here in Whitefish who actually bought books. He lived in a little two-room house with books on shelves clear up to the ceiling on all the walls. He wasn't rich; he dug sewers for a living. But he liked to read, so he bought books, because there was no other way to get them. His name was Ed Dutch.

I used to borrow armloads of his books--bless his heart--he was good about lendong them.

Then we had more books at home than most people, but they were pretty solid stuff for a child. I have never been able to enjoy Ben Hur--I read it too young.

Finally I caught on to the idea that

the books on the top shelf were there for a reason. The reason was that I wasn't supposed to read them. Well, we had chairs in the house, so of course I climbed up and did. The only one up there that I remember was Tess of the Storm Country. I tried hard to figure out what was in it that a little girl shouldn't read. Finally I decided it must be the part where the villain cuts the warts off Tess's pet toad.

It was years before I caught on to the fact that Tess had an illegitimate baby. Reading the forbidden books didn't blight my life much, or damage my morals.

Even higher than the top shelf was the attic. That's where the old doctor book was. That didn't blight my life or damage my morals, either. It just turned my stomach. When you turned the page with the man on it, you came to another page that showed him in his raw muscles.

There were some books I wasn't supposed to read because they were considered trash. Those included Tarzan of the Apes. I borrowed those up the street and kept them under the front steps. Years later I read some of them again, and sure enough they are trash--just one darn lion after another. But you can't recognize trash unless you read some of it.

Maybe one way to get more people to read more books is to make them just a little hard to get but not impossible.

Once I was in a public library where they kept the Gregg Shorthand Manual on the locked shelf. I was surprised --there isn't a single bad word in the Gregg Shorthand Manual and neither is it hard to buy. The librarian said it had to be locked up because people had stolen so many copies of it.

The first public library here in Whitefish was started long ago by the Women's Club, but I was away at school and didn't get much good out of it. The Women's Club ran it on a volunteer basis, and Whitefish will never forget their devotion. It still continues.

The first library to which I ever had full access was the college library at Bozeman, where I went to school one year. They had thousands of books, and you could walk right in among the shelves. You could take them out, too. I almost lost my mind with joy. I remember the first time I ever read in my dormitory room until two o'clock in the morning. I felt wicked and wonderful. Of course there are worse things a college freshman can do. But reading has always been my favorite sin.

We'd be here all night if I went on like this, so let's skip several years and a lot of libraries. Once in the New York Public Library I met a most remarkable man. I was on the prowl for the spelling of a word: treiskadekaphobia. You don't have a chance to use a word like that more than once in a lifetime, so you want to spell it right. I was writing a little magazine piece into which I could drag treiskadekaphobia, but absolutely nobody knew how to spell it. And I didn't know where I had ever seen it in the first place. They had a 60-volume dictionary but it wasn't even in there.

Finally I told my troubles to a man in the reference room. What did the word mean, he asked. It meant "fear of the number thirteen," I said, and it came from the Greek. So he casually picked a book off a shelf and leafed through it and told me how to spell treiskadeka and then you just tack on phobia. I got a look at the book--it was not a Greek-English dictionary, just a pure Greek dictionary. What remarkable people you find in libraries!

Have you ever tried to get into the New York Public Library's rare book romm? That's an experience. It's easier to get a job in the State De-

partment. You have to be interviewed to get a pass to be interviewed by somebody else to get a pass. You stand pitifully outside a barred door with your pass, and when you get in the man locks the door behind you. When he brings your book, he stands behind you to see that you're not going to tear any pages out.

In 1950 I left New York and moved back to Whitefish. Before I made that decision, I made darn sure that Whitefish had a public library. It's in familiar territory, too--in what used to be the police station. I grew up there.

My mother used to be city treasurer, and she did her work there in the evening while I did my arithmetic. I remember that room when it had wanted posters on the wall and handcuffs on a desk. Sometimes it even had a couple of tubs of evil-smelling mash that the police had taken away from moonshiners and brought in for evidence. I remember once when there was a dead mouse in the vault and nobody ever, ever found it. It was there, though. That dead mouse certainly was there.

I look forward to reading Mr. Moss's paper sometime a big story about Whitefish having a new, good place for its library. The Whitefish Library Association has been working toward that for a long time. That story will have big, black headlines when it appears in the Whitefish Pilot.

When I lived here, Mabel Engelter told me about a wonderful thing--the inter-library loan system. She got me lots of books through that, from the most unlikely places. There was one awful time when we both thought I had lost something by Washington Irving published about 1835--but I hadn't really.

The state extension library is another wonderful thing. I use that now, plus the Missoula Public Library, plus the University Library. I haven't used the University Library much lately. They're rebuilding it. Last time I tried it, you had to get in by going up a fire escape. Getting out was worse --I got lost twice. Where a door ought to be, there's a man with a jackhammer, ripping up the concrete or bricking up the doorway.

They have really been suffering around that library. If Kathleen Campbell ever writes a book about it, she ought to have a best seller. Conflict, suspense, dramatics--maybe even a happy ending. Or it might be a mystery, The Case of the Lost Library--or the lost librarians. I hope they call the roll every hour.

If I'm ever able to walk out of a library without any books after returning some, that'll be the day.

But probably I'm not a typical library customer. I keep lists of books I want. Nobody has to persuade me to read. I have an insatiable appetite. Your only problem is to keep me fed and contented.

But there must be thousands of people who nibble at this banquet only if it's put right under their noses. They don't ask you to find them a book or send for a book because they don't know there is such a book.

For those people, books have got to be right out in plain sight. They have to be in local libraries, not in a town several miles away. The books have to be where the people are. And the more books there are, the better.

Some people are even crazy about footnotes. I get a lot of good out of footnotes. Of course I was in college before I found that this man Ibid, who writes so many footnotes, was not a prolific Roman author, or maybe Egyptian.

My latest story in Collier's, called "Lost Sister," started from a footnote. I should explain how this doesn't work. You don't read a four or five line footnote and say, "Ah,

that's it," and then dash off 5,000 words of ringing prose. The footnote just stirs something in your mind and you think about it. You do lots of thinking and maybe lots more reading. Then you write and reqrite and complain and moan, and maybe you have a story and maybe you don't.

I remember another story that started with a footnote. That was published in Argosy as "Flame on the Frontier," and is in my book, Indian C untry, which I trust you all have in your libraries. It retails for a mere two dollars with hard covers.

The footnote was about a little boy who saved his baby brother in the New Ulm massacre in Minnesota in the 1860's. So I looked up the New Ulm massacre and got all steamed up with emotion. That night when I went to bed, I couldn't sleep because a massacre was going on right in the room where my bed was. I could tell what was happening to each member of a family during an Indian attack. Well, I quit trying to sleep. With this going on in my head, I grabbed a notebook and started writing shorthand lickety split. The scenes were disconnected, of course. Just try describing an Indian massacre sometime --you'd get confused, too.

But the next day I typed out all the shorthand and figured out where the scenes needed to be connected, and there was an exciting story--quite moving, too. They're not usually that easy to write, believe me!

The kind of stories I write usually come from reading--that is, the germ of the story does. Cosmopolitan had one a while ago about an old mountain man who was blind. I thought about the worst possible title for it would be The Last Stand, so I called it something else. But when it came out in Cosmopolitan, it was the Last Stand.

The idea for that came from a biography of Jim Bridger. He went blind in his later years, and his half-Indian daughter looked after him. The story was pure invention, and my mountain man was not named Jim Bridger, but the emotion in me that produced the story came from this book about him.

Buying books is a very expensive business. I buy a lot of them and am certainly glad you buy a lot more. I buy most of the western picture books, about Indians and cowboys and so on. They used to be $7.50. Then they were $10. Now they're $12.50. I kick like everything, but I pay it. Because a picture can set me off on a story idea as well as a footnote. I do not subscribe, however, to the theory that a picture is worth a thousand words. I'm in the word business. Let the picture people do their own promoting!

Speaking of footnotes, I tried some myself a while ago just to prove I could. The faculty people at the University are always producing scholarly works with footnotes, and I got to feeling like a poor ignorant creature. So I wrote an article for Montana Magazine of Western History with nine footnotes that I slaved over. And then that same issue of the magazine included somebody else's article with no less than 61 footnotes! I know when I'm licked. I was out-footnoted. Just goes to show what happens when an amateur tries to tangle with the professionals.

Another wonderful thing I've found in public libraries is old magazines. Maybe fifty years old. The mass magazines, like Ladies Home Journal, tell you what people wanted life to be like. That's important, because dreams are important.

The class magazines, like Harper's, tell you what authors thought contemporary life really was like. And that's important, too, even if they were wrong. When you read stories of World War I in magazines of that period, even in the class magazines, some of them seem like utter corn. Our attitudes have changed, and the way we look at life and the way we channel our emotions.

Old books and old magazines in libraries are important because of this --they tell us how life used to be or how people thought it was.

If you have read Dimsdale's Vigilantes of Montana, you noticed how he apologized for the Vigilantes. This is a surprise, because we think of them now as most admirable men. Their descendants boast about them. But when Thomas Dimsdale was writing about them, right after they had cleaned out the road agents, public opinion was not so unanimous. Dimsdale had to explain for easterners how bad the situation was in Montana territory. He had to defend what the Vigilantes did. Sometimes he sounds embarrassed. And the situation was still so ticklish when he wrote that he didn't identify individual Vigilantes. That makes the book confusing. We get a new concept of frontier life from reading contemporary acoounts. We find that our heroes hadn't yet been canonized. There's one priceless statement in Dimsdale's description of early Montana. He says that when people go west they either get better or worse. And then he says, "There are no average people in these regions." That's an important concept for a fiction writer who wants to re-create that period. There were no average people in these regions.

Once I got an idea for a story from reading about the Vigilante hangings. I've never quite been able to believe in villains, but Alder Gulch really had some. Momentarily, I was able to believe in villains, and even to be one. Actually, I have to be most of the people about whom I write fiction. I go through some terrible experiences. That time I got hung.

The story was called Last Boast, and it appeared in Cosmopolitan. This is the first sentence: "When the time came for them to die, Pete Gossard cursed and Knife Hilton cried, but Wolfer Joe Kennedy yawned in the face of the handman." I've always been fond of that beginning. There's no fooling around. The customer knows instantly what the show's going to be about, and if he doesn't like hangings, he can't say he wasn't warned. In that one, I had to be Wolfer Joe Kennedy, and believe me, it was no fun. That was a short-short. At the beginning, Wolfer Joe has a noose around his neck, and two thousand words later he's dead. All neatness and dispatch. And my villain didn't repent for a minute. I do like consistent people!

By no means all my library-book borrowing is to provide ideas and background for fiction. I just like to read, and sometimes I get some special interest and go on a bender. Last year I went mad about geology. I read almost everything the Missoula Public Library had about geology. It got me confused, too, because the books didn't agree. Geologists don't either. One book I got was the second of two volumes. It was entitled "The Beginning of the Earth." If that's the second volume, I can't help wondering what was in the first one. Right now I'm utterly fascinated by the history of mathematics. Not by mathematics itself, but by its history. You just never know what wonderful books you'll find, browsing slong the shelves.

Libraries will always have some devoted patrons who love to read. We make work for you by asking for help in finding books or getting them from somewhere else. You are always completely patient and enthusiastically helpful about it. I have never met a librarian, in Montana who wasn't. There is nothing wrong with the people who run libraries.

But they have a problem, I think, with people who are not enthusiastic about reading. And lots of people are not. That old joke about the girl who didn't want a book because she already had one is not very funny. You can go into many homes and there's not a book in sight.

Now we're at the end of this. I came to say thank you for the help you have given me in the past and the help I'll

ask for in the future. When I want to know the details of some old train robbery and what bandits were involved, some of you will help me find out. When I need the facts about some long-ago Indian fight, you'll have it. And you'll get it for me without acting shocked that I should want to know.

(Address given at the banquet,
May 5, 1956

U.S. INFORMATION LIBRARY, COPENHAGEN
by Mrs. Joran Birkeland

When Miss Walton asked me to come and tell you of my experiences in Denmark some years ago, I told her there was probably very little about the Information Center program abroad I could tell you that you do not already know. After all, these libraries have been existence more than 10 years now. The ALA Bulletin has carried many references to it during that time. So has the Library Journal, and the Special Libraries Bulletin. But if personal experience can give you any insights into how the program works, I am glad to tell you something of my work during the years 1946 to 1950.

I might point out, at the outset, that the present network of United States libraries abroad--from Bangkok to Beirut, Athens to Oslo, Santiago to Singapore--is largely the outgrowth of the Office of War Information. When World War II ended, a few educators, librarians, and writers persuaded the Truman Administration to continue the program in peace time. This was in contrast to what happened at the close of World War I when the United States withdrew all its propaganda machinery, such as it was, along with the troops. A number of the larger--and smaller--powers did not. The propaganda work that grew up in that postwar period was of various kinds: the mere mention of Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and Soviet Russia tells us the nature of some of the post-war propaganda activity of that time. But there was constructive propaganda too from, for instance, the British Council and the French Council. But when World War II began the United States had to start from scratch again in making our history and our way of doing things, and our way of thinking, known to other peoples. Then, in 1948, we entered the constructive peacetime field of international exchange of information. The Congress passed Public Law 402, "an act to promote the better understanding of the United States among the peoples of the world and to strengthen cooperative international relations."

The first, interim, Congressional appropriations were very small. In 1946, when I was sent to Copenhagen to establish the Library there, I was told that my assignment might turn out to be for a few months only. Everything depended upon appropriations. Now the program is firmly established. According to the SPOKESMAN REVIEW of a few weeks ago, a record-high amount of $110,000,000 is under consideration by the present Congress for overseas propaganda activities.

All of this sum, of course, is not meant for the Libraries--or Information Centers, as the libraries are called. The libraries are only one of five arms of our overseas propaganda activities. The other four are documentary films, press releases, exchange of persons, and radio broadcasting. The radio arm is called the Voice of America.

As far as possible, the libraries overseas are duplicates of the best typical small-town public libraries here at home, except that the libraries overseas stock only books by Americans and about America. There is no attempt to build up large research libraries on the United States --although Heaven knows there is need for such libraries abroad. The effort is, first of all, to demon-

strate a free, democratic, typically American institution dedicated to providing any reader with the best we have to offer in literature, and to providing any reader with the fullest information available within the budget on any subject. As a matter of fact--and this is not just Lincoln County pride--Mrs. Inez Herrig's Library in Libby has often struck me as being just the kind of American public library our Government has sought to establish abroad: it is attractive in appearance, its services go far beyond its four walls, its materials are nicely organized under the Dewey Classification System, and --best of all--it is a force in the community---it stimulates reading. Through programs on the local radio station, through study and discussion groups, through inter-library loan systems, through children's activities, through extension and branch library work, and through the librarian's own participation in local, State and national organizations, the people in Lincoln County know their library, and use it.

To run such a library in a foreign country where the potential users run into the millions calls for specialized activities to meet the special problems. It cannot hope to reach the people of a country individually: it must aim at the public opinion molders, or key institutions, whose influence will go out, secondhand at the very best, to individuals. A factor of equal importance is, that the users are persons for whom reading English is usually an effort. Therefore, the holdings must be simple, brief and well-illustrated materials. In fact, children's books are very often used to meet adult needs, especially in history and other social sciences, and every librarian abroad has blessed our wealth of publications for young people. Of course there is nothing juvenile about the foreign mind, but juveniles are written in easy language and do often give a background of information that is necessary for the reader abroad who has little or no previous information about the United States. The bibliographical services of the ALA, H. W. Wilson, and the various book councils in the country are used for the book selection.

Besides the prime language obstacle, the average reader--even in the countries of Western Europe, and particularly in the Far East and Africa, knows so little about the United States that it has to be seen and heard to be believed. He simply does not know where to being. Worse than that, he does not know how little he knows. Abroad, even more than at home, a librarian must be adept at projecting books, at arousing the curiosity of the reader in specific subjects and specific books, and then in coming forward to place the books in the reader's own hot little hand.

An example: in Denmark we discovered that even high school teachers and college professors were not familiar with such writers in America as Emerson or Thoreau, or indeed, the New England literature at large. Zane Grey, mind you, and Cooper, and Edgar Guest were the highlights of American philosophy and literature. So when we in Copenhagen learned that Dr. Kenneth Murdock, professor of American literature at Harvard, was in Europe, we got in touch with him and asked him to come to Copenhagen to meet in our little Library with an invited group of Danish educators to talk on literature of New England and to answer questions about contemporary American writing. He very kindly agreed to come, though we did not have appropriations to pay either for his transportation or to give him a lecture fee. Professor Murdock was just the type of cultivated person to appeal to the Danes, and that evening the literature of New England was introduced, for the first time, to Danish teachers of English-language literature. College professors and college students became users of our library and teachers in the Danish gymnasier began offering their students, through us, more realistic fare than Zane Grey and Cooper. I especially remember the delight of a

Danish high school teacher at discovering Willa Cather. He read every book of Willa Cather's we had on the shelves and all we could get from Washington. That evening also started the ball rolling for incorporating a course in American literature at both of the two Universities in Denmark.

Another example: Denmark, as you know, has an extensive adult education system. The country is dotted with schools for persons who are no longer students but adults still pursuing their education in the so-called "folk high schools." Mechanics, farmers, housewives, business people, office workers--thousands attend school at night. Farmers attend boarding schools for 6-week periods in the fall and winter. In looking over one of the books on world affairs used in these courses, we found only two short readings on the United States--both of them derogatory. One article dealt with the inferior quality of our movies, as compared with the movies of every other country in the world, and the other dealt with the worst aspects of our race problems. Both articles had been written years ago. This situation existed, not because of any real anti-United States feeling in Denmark, but simply because the writers and editors who published the book, and the teachers who taught it, did not know any better. No one had called their attention to a full and fair picture of the United States on these subjects, or any other. The book was full of interesting and worthwhile material on England and France. After all, the British and the French, through their councils, had long had personal and professional contact with Danish librarians, booksellers, educators, and publishers. Material on these countries was readily available--day in and day out, as well as historically and geographically. But, then, in 1948, we also were able to send books and periodicals--mainly anthologies and histories--to the Ministry of Education, publishers and school principals, with the invitation to use any material they chose for their next edition of their world handbook. We promised to secure copyright clearance. We tried not to take a defensive position, but merely called their attention to available source material. That winter we circulated hundreds of copies of a paper-bound history of the United States that had been published by the press division of our Information Service.

(I won't have time to go into the very important subject of copyright clearance as a function of our libraries abroad, but I do want to call your attention to the fact that foreign people need to sell their goods to the United States in order to buy ours, including our books. This is something to think about in connection with our tariff barriers, foreign aid programs, and trade agreements.)

Another example: in 1948 or 1949, Mrs. Blair Buck who was president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs at the time, visited Copenhagen. We took her on a grand tour of our operations, since she was interested in reporting on it to the Women's Clubs when she got back to the United States. Her husband, Blair Buck, State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Virginia, was also in Europe that year as exchange professor in London. Through her, we succeeded in getting Professor Buck to Copenhagen to talk in one of the large auditoriums of the city on our school system. We publicized his visit and arranged a press interview with him for Danish journalists. The very afternoon of his arrival, the Communist newspaper of Copenhagen published a misleading article about our schools. We translated it, word for word, and when Professor Buck went up on the speakers stand he had read the Communist attack and was able to take the psychological offensive on the subject. He proceeded to correct every misrepresentation and to nullify the effects of the Communist article. The hecklers who came to that lecture got nowhere. We have, of course, no way of measuring every change of public o-

pinion, or to trace the effect of an increased book circulation on the reader's minds, but we could always observe that there was more circulation and more reference-question activity after one of our so-called projections.

I'd like to tell you too about our Danish children's hour in our library, and our library of recorded American music that brought hundreds of visitors every month, but this is already too much. A word about our premises and our staff: we opened in two rooms on the fifth floor of an office building--the only space available. A year later we were able to move to a street--level location where we could have attractive window displays by converting two small store locations into a library. Of course there were many makeshifts. We did install fluorescent lighting --this was the first time fluorescent lighting had been used in any library in Denmark--and we did achieve a modern, new-look through use of color. We had a trained Danish librarian, and five Danish assistants. We worked very closely with the Danish library system and sent books to all parts of the country. Sometimes we had as many as 300 visitors a day, and our users outside of Copenhagen ran into many hundreds.

Miss Walton spoke of this library program overseas as a "library frontier," and it seemed to me to be an apt phrase. Certainly, our libraries overseas do, to a remarkable extent, demonstrate that libraries do not need to be mere stuffy storage places for books used by random visitors who may stray in, but that a library may be a true information center capable of enlarging the minds of men. And librarians do not need to be mere custodians of books, but constructive leaders in the development of peace --and good will--abroad, as well as at home.

*Talk given at the Sunday breakfast, May 6, 1956.

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PROCEEDINGS
43rd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Kalispell, May 4 - 6
Compiled by Martha Hassell

PRE-CONFERENCE PANEL DISCUSSIONS
Friday, May 4

The first panel discussion was held at 10 a.m. on the subject Standards for School and Public Libraries, with Mrs. Catherine Chadwick of the Montana State Library Extension Commission presiding.

Mrs. Chadwick opened the topic by saying that the new proposed standards of the American Library Association are based on quality rather than on quantity.

Miss Eilene Morrison (Montana State College) asked if every school needs a fully trained librarian. She thought that the person who takes care of the library needs teacher-training first and then library training. At Montana State College every teacher has to take a course in library science before finishing work for his degree.

Mr. William I. King (State High School Supervisor, Helena) suggested that the librarian should secure the teachers' help in selecting books. He further suggested that the PTA be asked to furnish money for books because such action would excite the interest of the parents in the library and they would be more apt to see that their children read books.

Dr. Irving Lieberman (Director, of the School of Librarianship, University of Washington) urged that every teacher should know something about the literature for children. He thought it was a very sound idea to do as the Montana State College does for all its teachers. He suggested that teacher training schools such as Montana State College should go on for those interested in children's books and reading and give enough courses in library science for a minor in library science.

Mr. King thought that librarians in our schools were missing an important segment of the school population. For example, for the hot rod fans he would suggest that they buy books giving specifications for motor building. These boys would read auto mechanics books avidly.

Mrs. Marjorie Moores (Hill County Library) said that teachers come to her for help in book selection. She suggests that they but permanent books, craft books, books on trees, flowers, standard titles, and the County Library will furnish them with their fiction and leisure reading. The County and Public Libraries are educating the school boards about selection and buying.

Mrs. Chadwick pointed out that the Commission supplies books to schools that have no library at all. There have been cases, however, where the school superintendents insist that the teacher not borrow books from the Extension Commission. They don't want the responsibility for the books. Even parents don't want the responsibility sometimes.

Mr. John W. Cushman (Superintendent of Schools, Carbon County) reported that they had had service from the Extension Commission and it was a very valuable service. Some of the rural schools have no library except that in the County Superintendent's office.

Mr. King said he would like to know who those superintendents are who won't take responsibility for borrowing books. He thought it a public disgrace.

Mrs. Joan Carpenter (Helena Junior High School Library), speaking about cooperation in a junior high school, said they have student help at the 9th grade level and the girls are each given a badge. Many of the stu-

dents have never used the library before and it is their first library experience. The response is good. Twenty-eight English classes were taught how to use the library.

Dr. Lieberman asked how many student assistants they have and what training each has.

Mrs. Carpenter said that each has a chore and the jobs are rotated. They don't do any cataloging because they don't type. Some of the better ones file with supervision. There is no clerical assistance, so the students do shelving and circulation. There are no study halls in the library. There are 900 students in the Junior High School. The library holds more than two classes. Each room is entitled to send five students during the study time. They come to do their reference work. They can also come before school and after 3:30.

Dr. Lieberman stated that good library service in one place makes good library service in another area. Good school library service demands and helps to get better use of the public library.

Mr. King thought two teachers were needed to help the classes in the library.

Mrs. Sonna Howe (Helena High School Library) observed that the librarian cannot do a good job unless the administrator knows the use of the library and gives support. Speaking about her high school library she said she has no clerical help, but five student assistants. The circulation has dropped this year in the new high school. The high school library is in the new building and is being used as a study hall because the principal thinks the students will soak up some library atmosphere, and read more books, but the statistics don't prove this to be ture.

Dr. Lieberman said that the important point is that you can't create motivation by having students sit in the library room.

Mr. Richards pointed out that the climate has to come from the top. The Seattle Public Library returned the administration of elementary school libraries to the schools this year. The Public Library was not willing to do it any longer, because it could not do a dynamic job. A school library supervisor was recommended. The school system has taken it on, but has not made provision for supervision, in spite of the fact that many teachers and principals want good school library service. The top brass do not understand. It is important to get across to the school administrators that the school library must have a place in the sun.

Mrs. Howe urged that the school librarian should be in attendance at meetings on the curriculum.

Miss Walton asked how we are going to train administrators.

Dr. Lieberman believed that the school library administrator's course should be required of all school administrators for an M.A. degree.

Mr. King reported that in Montana they are giving an M.A. at Montana State College. He thought too that the younger men have a different view from the older administrators.

Mrs. Moores thought the problem came back to the school boards who don't want public interest.

Dr. Lieberman thought that when the public library helped the school library they were not really doing the school library a service. It satisfied the school administrator as library service to the school. The people of the community have thought this was library service, and they need to get their sights up and see what good library service is. He suggested that rural schools could consolidate library facilities even if the schools aren't consolidated. It must be emphasized that the library loans by public libraries are

supplementing and not replacing existing school library facilities.

Mrs. Chadwick said the Commission has decreasing requests for high school loans.

Mr. Richards said that the top brass in Seattle is opposed to elementary school libraries.

Miss Morrison pointed out that there is need for advisors in college to advise the school administrators to take library courses.

Miss Walton asked about the Northwest Association's accrediting for school libraries.

The standard or average school in Montana has 100 students. The accrediting rule is that 100-300 students should have a half-time librarian who has had 15 quarter hours of library science training.

300-500 students should have a half-time librarian with 30 quarter hours training. 500 and more students need a full time librarian who has had at least 30 quarter hours training and clerical assistance. Nine schools in Montana are this size.

Mr. King reported that there is great pressure to eliminate even these standards because public recreation, sports, etc. take the public interest. They may reduce the standards in Montana.

Dr. Lieberman said he has written to Mr. Robinson who is a member of the Committee on Standards of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools and offered him his help. He suggested that an M.A. in library science is needed in small schools to make the best use of the books where there are fewer books.

Mr. King believed that a letter to Mr. Robinson from this group would bear weight with him in the problem of standards.

Miss Campbell (Montana State University) stated that next year the State University will give a full program of training for a minor in library science.

Miss Walton requested Mrs. Chadwick to appoint a committee to take up the writing of such a letter to be approved by the group.

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The second panel discussion was held at 1:30 on Problems of Library Recruitment, with Dr. Lieberman as chairman.

Mrs. Clare Smith (Miles City Carnegie Library) started the discussion by saying we needed to pay librarians better salaries, but wondered if it really was as simple as that.

Mr. Merwin Moores (Northern Montana College) suggested that in recruiting we should catch and interest those students who are casting around for their major subject; we might explore the idea of interesting some in the field to teacher-librarian.

Dr. Lieberman said, "We need better library schools and fewer." This was his answer to the question about returning the library science school to the Montana State University. He had made a study of the need of a library science course at U.C.L.A. He made an analysis by questionnaire which showed that they do not need another school in California, but they do need a better school at Berkeley.

Miss Campbell reported that President McFarland had recommended they investigate the possibility of establishing the school again, and the American Library Association stated that it would be unwise to start one. The University is going to have a teacher-librarian training program, however.

Mrs. Howe thought that the inspiration for recruitment should come from the high school.

Mrs. Alma Jacobs (Great Falls Public Library) described the Great Falls television show in which a number of members of her staff participated in telling about various phases of library work and services to the public.

Dr. Lieberman suggested a cooperative radio and television program. Radio covers all the area. A program called something like "Your Public Library Program". Talent should be found, not necessarily from the library, and a program sponsored for all the State. Librarians who do library programs on the radio should have extra help in the library to relieve them. Radio stations have to give some free time for educational programs.

Dr. Lieberman also said that salaries of school librarians are comparable to teachers' salaries.

He urged that librarians use films on libraries to show what kind of library work is done. The film, (Impressionable Years" was done by United World Films for the New York Public Library and dealt with children's work. It is available from the University of Washington film library. No professionals are used in the film, only children. The Library of Congress publishes a list of films about libraries and library services which is available for the asking.

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The third panel discussion was held at 3 p.m. on Library Censorship: How can we met it?, with Mrs. Alma Jacobs as chairman.

Mrs. Jacobs suggested that librarians should have their library boards adopt the Library Bill of Rights as policy. It is important also to have a written book-selection policy.

Mr. Richards asked if the book collections represent all points of view. Librarians have the responsibility to represent the right as well as the left and liberal points of view.

Mrs. Jacobs asked whether librarians give the excuse of lack of money when they don't buy all points of view.

Dr. Lieberman said that in Brooklyn if they did not buy a certain book they put a card in the catalog telling why they didn't buy it, e.g. that it was not factual. This was their handling of the book "Dianetics."

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FIRST GENERAL SESSION
Friday, May 4 8 p.m.
Virginia Walton, Presiding

Miss Walton announced that Montana now has chapter status in the American Library Association.

The previous year's secretary's report as printed in the Montana Library Quarterly was approved.

The report of the Library Development Committee was accepted as printed.

Miss Heathcote reported for the Montana Library Quarterly and paid tribute to the members of her committee, Ruth Longworth and Jean Todd, for their excellent work. Mrs. Longworth's ability to get advertisements from dealers has resulted in making the Quarterly self-supporting. Suggestions for material to be included in future issues, will be welcomed.

Miss Campbell suggested that one issue be used for the proceedings, instead of three issues as was done this year, since this would make them easier to use. Miss Heathcote said it was planned to do so and that the July issue would contain all the proceedings. The report was adopted.

The Friends of the Library report was accepted. The treasurer made her report, adding that more Friends had paid dues since she made out the report. Her report was accepted.

Miss Whitmack as ALA councilor is attending the Miami conference and cannot be here. She suggested that the Montana State Library Association meet only every two years. There was

no interest from the members and no motion made.

Legislative Committee report. Mrs. Graybill, the chairman, is in Washington, D. C. where she will talk to legislators, particularly Rep. Fjare, who is against the Library Services Bill. Some of the problems will be reported on later.

Miss Campbell reported on a proposal for a change in the State Library Extension Commission law. She is going to suggest to the next legislature that the chairmanship of the Commission be taken away from the State University Librarian, who would become an ex-officio member. Also in the bill would be a request for two more lay members, and the districts in the State would each be represented by a member. The bill would also change the term of office from three to five years.

Another bill to be presented to the legislature would move the Commission to Helena. The Commission has had to be moved to a very old building on the Missoula campus. Mr. Toole, of the State Historical Society thinks that the State Capitol Building Fund can be used for an addition to the Historical Library building. Miss Campbell thought this would be a forerunner for a good library law for Montana in conformity with the National Association of State Librarians. Pictures and plans of the proposed building were passed around. The Legislative Committee asked for the support of all members for this proposed legislation.

Another peice of legislation to be asked from the next legislature concenrs money to pay our way in the program for the blind. The Montana blind are served by the Seattle Public Library. The machines and records are free from the Federal Government, but the housing and service have been paid for by the Seattle Public Library. We should pay our share of this cost and the bill will so propose. Miss Campbell pointed out that it is imperative that the Montana State Library Association support the Commission in requesting this legislation. Miss Walton asked for an expression from the group, and a motion to support the proposed legislative action was made, seconded and approved.

Because of competition from another meeting in another part of the same room, Miss Walton was unable to finish her talk on the theme of the convention, Know and Grow.

Dr. Lieberman went ahead with his prepared talk on Education for Librarianship: Lifelong, Not Terminal. (See page 11)

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SECOND GENERAL SESSION
Saturday, May 5 9 a.m.
Miss Walton, Presiding

The invocation was given by the Reverend Donald Adams.

The Honcrable Claude C. Walter, Mayor of Kalispell, gave the address of welcome in a warm and friendly spirit.

Mrs. Inez Herrig responded to Mr. Walter suitably.

Mrs. Chadwick then presented a talk on Montana's Libraries in a Changing World: Postwar Standards in 1956. She gave a resume of the proposed standards which the Committee hopes to ccmplete by the time of the ALA conference in Miami. The new standards emphasize an entirely new approach, with fewer figures. Following are the main points of her talk:

1. Every American should have library service in his community.
2. A full range of facilities should be available.
3. A system of service is emphasized in the new standards.
4. Supplementary library service; The federal government should coordinate resources of all states.
5. Library service should not depend on the benefaction of the large to the small libraries.

6. Libraries should be a part of the local government, "a part of the court house gang," as Gretchen Schenk says.
7. The library should be governed by a board of able citizens and administered by trained personnel.
8. For smaller libraries, there should be some in-service training, and for large libraries, trained personnel.
9. The library is the community agency of service.
10. 100.000 population is the ideal minimum for a system. In our State we can hardly think of 100,000; perhaps 60,000 people and a budget of $75,000 would be reasonable figures for Montana.
11. Areas of service should be so set up that there will be the same general kind of people in an area; farming areas, mining areas, etc., so that each area could specialize in the material needed.
12. It is not good enough to have a library open a few hours a week. We need to get out into the community. Know your community and study reports and know all the facts of your community life.
13. The library should be integrated into the community. The staff should be part of the community life.
14. Make the library a center for children. Open at 8 a.m. if necessary, and in the evenings.
15. Suit the library to the community. Have few reserved books. Circulate the entire collection. Since we have a Montana Historical Library, you can circulate all your history collection. If you have any books so rare that they can't circulate, give them to the Historical Library.
16. The library should represent what the community needs and wants, and not some small segment. Select books for the majority, but do not ignore the minority. Read reviews before you purchase books. Have your whole staff help in book selection. I have been trying to arrange for a traveling exhibit of children's books. Friends of the library can help to select magazines and books for special fields, like technical journals.
17. There should be instruction for the use of materials in the library.
18. The library should co-sponsor projects in the community.
19. Record statistics to show the community what we can do and have done.
20. Have a definite book policy including the subject of censorship. All sides of a subject should be represented.
21. Do not neglect audio-visual materials. You can do more with a picture than with 10,000 words.
22. Start with the idea of 100,000 books for 100,000 people. Add 4,000-5,000 books annually and certain standard works for children and young people. Keep 50% of the magazines. There should ideally be a basic collection of 250 films and 25 films should be purchased annually. Start with 1500 records and add 300 per year. These figures are not yet approved by ALA but they show the new trend in thinking.

Miss Campbell spoke on the promise of the Ford Foundation's Survey for the Pacific Northwest.

For some time, the members of the Pacific Northwest Library Association have been aware of the unevenness of library service and development in the region. In 1950 the Library Development Committee of the PNLA decided to make a special study of the situation, and as a result a request was made to the Ford Foundation for a grant to conduct a survey. The Committee was of the opinion that outside help was essential to put our needs across. The grant was allowed and the two-year project will get un-

der way July 1. A complete and detailed study of the present library facilities "and of the cultural, economic, geographic and political factors" on which they depend. We shall all be asked to cooperate with the project director.

Dr. Lieberman added that we presented our idea to the Ford Foundation and they approved $60,000 to pay for the study. A director is already hired and he will attend PNLA in August. The Director is not a librarian and the reason is that we want citizen support. Dr. Kroll, the director, has had experience and training in public administration. We are a part of government, and people will pay more attention to the recommendations of a specialist in public administration than they will to a librarian. But it is important to remember that this is your project. At PNLA in August, Dr. Kroll will tell us what he thinks the project can do and how he can help and how we can help. The project will have offices in Thompson Hall, 5th Floor, University of Washington campus.

Mr. John S. Richards, President of the American Library Association, presented a talk on Challerges to Modern Librarianship. (See page 4)

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LUNCHEON MEETING
Saturday, May 5, 1956
Mrs. Jeane Sturdivant, Presiding

The Dame Fairy tales lady from Columbia Falls made a mistake in the time and did not arrive until too late to appear. Instead she told one story at the opening of the third general session. Mrs. Roy Waller, Kalispell spoke about her father, Frank Linderman.

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THIRD GENERAL SESSION
Saturday, May 5 1:30 p.m.

The meeting began with a panel discussion, the New Look in Audio-Visual Materials, with Dr. Lieberman as chairman.

Dr. Lieberman recommended the film Impressionable Years. He also suggested that we obtain a copy of the selected list of films on Libraries and Library Services, done by James H.Culver of the Reference Department of the Library of Congress.

Speaking of their use of audio-visual materials, Miss Lulu Barnard, County Superintendent of Schools of Flathead County said that Flathead County schools have 500 films in their library. They have also complete sets of pictures available to all schools, flat units of work on many subjects, full sets of music appreciation materials, map and chart service, flannel boards, tape recorders, and books for exceptional children, a loan service for adults, teachers and board members. They give prizes for reading in Flathead County. The Board of County Commissioners has provided a good budget.

Mrs. Marjorie Moores told about using a tape recorder with children. The story book lady does the story and the children take parts. They work the story out, using the tape recorder and eventually the story goes on the air.

Mention was made of the "Enrichment" records, records of the Landmark books. An opaque projector can use any pictures and projects them on the wall. Any picture out of a book may be projected and used for display.

Mr. William C. Ross, principal of the Central Junior High School, Kalispell, told about his use of films from the State Film Library. They make a schedule of films to be used in the class rooms a year ahead. They also have 450 film strips in the office and they have a list of them by subject. They also have recordings, a slide projector with a timer to help children in reading.

Mr. Forrest R. Steen, State Supervisor of Visual Education, Helena, talked about the service of the State Film Library. The library publishes a catalog of films available, that costs $5. Postage to mail the films is 4¢ the first pound and 2¢ each additional pound for 16mm films. Films are available for loan throughout the State.

Dr. Lieberman recommended an ALA publication entitled "Films for Public Libraries."

The discussion was followed by talks on The Business Life of a Library.

Mrs. Longworth spoke about the new library buildings now under construction in Cut Bank and Browning and showed drawings and plans.

Mrs. Inez Herrig told how Lincoln County secured the two-mill levy. She suggested that the human element is very important, and no two situations are alike. You have to show your people and your county commissioners that the money to be spent will get results. She tries to show them that the library is a part of the government, and the library has the advantage of being in the county court house building. As she says, she is a local girl and knows how people operate. There are good psychological times to ask for library funds. The County Clerk can be very helpful as he is the key to the Commission. She suggested that librarians use the lay people of their community. She asks only for what she really needs and she shows statistics to compare with other libraries in the State.

The next panel discussion was on the New Look in Publicity: Press Relations and how best to Utilize them, and the chairman was Mrs. Mary Hagerty of the Great Falls Public Library.

The members of the panel, Mrs. Margaret Adair, of the Whitefish Pilot Dick Floyd of the Kalispell Daily Interlake and Mel Ruder of the Hungry Horse News gave some valuable pointers for librarians seeking publicity for their libraries. There are definite requirements for good copy. In the first place the library should meet the news deadlines. Type double-spaced, and be accurate. If it is material other than book lists, you can do the stories in note form because each paper has its own style. A good feature would be brief comments on a few books and a list of a few more. Newspaper men always are on the lookout for feature stories. When you think you have one, call the editor. Be alert for anything that can be used. Set up a display that fits in with National Book Week or National Milk Week or other national or local events. Call the editor to come and see it and write a story. Know the newspaper people in your community.

BANQUET
Saturday, May 5 7 p.m.
Gurney M. Moss, Presiding

The address of the evening was given by Dorothy M. Johnson, Secretary-Manager of the Montana State Press Association, and Associate Professor School of Journalism, Montana State University. (See page)

BREAKFAST MEETING
Sunday, May 6 8 a.m.
Mrs. Cornelia Sherman, Presiding

The Reverend C. L. Clifford presided at a short devotional service. After breakfast, Mrs. Joran Birkeland presented a most interesting talk on her experiences at the U.S.I.S. library in Copenhagen. (See page)

The Friends of Libraries group met at the same time in an adjoining room and conducted a business meeting during the breakfast.

FOURTH GENERAL SESSION
Sunday, May 6, 9:15 a.m.
Mrs. Marjorie Moores, Presiding

The first panel discussion was on Cooperation between School and Public Libraries, and Mrs. Winnafern Moore, State Supervisor of Elementary Education, was chairman.

Mrs. Moore pointed out that this meeting was an outgrowth of the meeting in Miles City. On the State level they have sent out several bulletins from the State Superintendent's office to help county superintendents select books for school libraries. It was suggested that a list of books should be attached. She asked herself what she could do to help. At Havre a library course is required in the four-year course, but not in the two-year course. Reading is basic and the library is necessary in a school. One reason our reading program is slow is that teachers haven't been required to take a library course and they don't know how to interest children in reading; it is more important to work with the teacher in the one-room school than in the larger school system which has a school superintendent to help. Distances are too far and roads too bad for these teachers to get help readily. One answer is to hold institutes for the teacher of the one-room schools. Have excursions and bring the children in to the library; She found that often the teachers did not even know the county librarian. It is now possible to see some real results of our institute meetings in eastern Montana. She plans to carry this idea out in the western part of the state next year. Laura Jane Taft has done as much as anyone in Montana to cooperate in her county.

Mrs. Taft reported that she and the county librarian met to make a plan. Then the latter invited all the rural teachers to come and bring their children into the library. She also offered them help in selecting books for purchase. The law provides that the County Superintendent shall approve books to be purchased, so the teachers could no longer select books just for their cheapness. The rural children are invited to take part in the summer reading program. Glacier County also has a film library. Puppets are used as motivation for reading also.

Mrs. Herrig, speaking for Mrs. Glessie Kemp who could not attend, said that each school in Lincoln County has an encyclopedia and they are urging that the Childcraft books be purchased for elementary school rooms. There is a film strip library in the County Superintendent's office. Mrs. Kemp held an institute before school started and she gave Mrs. Herrig half the morning to talk. Mrs. Herrig had a coffee hour first, and then took the teachers to the library for the rest of the morning. She has a winter reading program and includes the rural children. The children get certificates from the teachers for the reading of 20 books. The librarian and the teacher both sign it. It includes any book the child has read, either her own, or from the library. This is not for purposes of circulation, but to stimulate reading.

Mrs. Prichard reported that Stillwater County has a bookmobile operating from the County Library that visits all the schools. Meetings are held once a month when all the teachers are invited to come to the library. Lists of the books in the library are made and sent to the teachers and they are asked to make out their own lists of books to borrow.

Miss Diantha Fowler, Whitefish High School Librarian, suggested that the school librarian should be on an eleven-month contract. Many school librarians work outside of the nine-month year without pay. She thought that publicity needs to be used in the school library program. The school taped some radio programs, some of them about the school library. Afterwards many people told her "I did not know all of the things that go on in a school library." This is

a good first step. She also suggested a cooperative book fair with the Public Library.

Public librarians might well take the initiative. Librarians have specialized training,but teachers have not. In many institutions it will soon be mandatory to have some library courses, but the older teachers who are already trained have not had these courses.

Mr. Richards said that one of the most rewarding things he observed on his southern trip was the citizens movement for libraries. In Arkansas the JC's have a state-wide program "Operation Library". When they take on a project, they really do a job. The library has to get a fair share of the tax dollar and the citizens will have to do it.

Mrs. Moores expressed the sentiment of the meeting when she suggested a special note of thanks should be given the ALA and the Seattle Public Library for sending Mr. Richards to our meeting.

****

LUNCHEON MEETING
Sunday, May 6, 1956
Mrs. Homer Normann, Presiding

The subject for discussion was Friends of Libraries in Action. Mrs. Homer Normann of Flathead County, Mrs. Emma Veach of Stillwater County, Mrs. James Schucke of Hill County and Harold Nelson of Glacier County gave interesting and encouraging accounts of the organization and work of their respective groups.

****

FIFTH GENERAL SESSION
Sunday, May 6, 1:30 p.m.
Virginia Walton, Presidigg

As the Montana Library Quarterly was approved last year as a one-year experiment only,it was moved, seconded and carried that it be continued indefinitely.

The invitation to hold the 1957 conference in Butte was accepted with pleasure.

The motion was made, seconded and carried that honorary life membership be conferred on Miss Leiser,the only surviving original member of the Montana State Library Association.

The motion was made, seconded and passed to allot $25 to the ALA Washington office to assist in its operation.

Miss Walton installed the new officers, i.e. Mrs. Marjorie J. Moores as president,Doris Wilson as vice-president and president-elect, Mrs. Elsie Ekegren as secretary and Zada Bridges as treasurer.

Mrs. Moores spoke briefly,asking for the cooperation of the membership for the very busy year ahead.

Miss Heathcote read the report of the Resolutions Committee as follows:

Whereas the Montana State Library Association has held its 43rd annual meeting in Kalispell May 4-6, 1956 as the guests of the citizens of Kalispell and Whitefish,

Be it therefore resolved that this Association go on record as extending its deep appreciation and warm thanks to all who contributed so signally to this convention, and especially to the following:

To John S. Richards,Librarian of the Seattle Public Library and President of the American Library Association, our warm thanks for coming to our meeting,for entering so graciously into our deliberations and especially for presenting us with his fine talk"Challenges to Modern Librarianship", which in itself is a challenge to all of us;

To Irving Lieberman, Director of the School of Librarianship, Universsity of Washington,for his enthusiastic assistance at so many of

our meetings and especially for his talk "Education for Librarianship:Lifelong, not Terminal";

To the Rev. Donald Adams, the Rev. John F. Reagan, and the Rev. C.L. Clifford for their devotional contributions;

To the Hon. Claude C. Walters,Mayor of Kalispell, and the Hon. Roy Duff, Mayor of Whitefish, for a gracious welcome to their cities;

To Mrs. Roy Waller of Kalispell for her interesting talk"Frank Linderman Lives on";

To Mr. C.D. O'Neil for his contribution to our Saturday noon program;

To all those who took part in our panel discussions,-Miss Lulu Barnard, William C. Ross, Forrest R. Steen, Mrs. Margaret Adair, Dick Floyd,Mel Ruder, Mrs. Laura Jane Taft, Mrs. Emma Veach, Mrs. James Schucke,and Harold Nelson, and to Mrs. Homer Normann for presiding so graciously at our Sunday Friends' Luncheon;

To Harriette Cushman for her enthusiastic and inspiring leadership of the Friends' Group;

To Mrs. Slifer for leading our singing, and to Mary Margaret Boyd, Bill Dickinson and their accompanists,Marilyn Peterson and Mrs Dickinson,and to Roberta Weydahl for their pleasing musical contributions;

To Mrs. Joran Birkeland for her graphic picture of the U.S. Information Library in Copenhagen;

To Gurney M. Moss whose sense of humor and delightful presentation will surely never be equalled, let alone surpassed;

To Dorothy M. Johnson whose experiences with libraries and librarians were, fortunately, somewhat less painful than those with horses,-our thanks for touching our risibilities so efficiently;

To the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce for its courtesy in supplying us with leaflets describing this beautiful area, and for keeping us on the right side of the law with the car stickers;

To the Jaycees and Jayceens of Whitefish for the delightful banquet favors and for the transportation and guide services to Big Mountain so cheerfully given;

To Mrs. Eldon Lee of Whitefish for the individual ceramic ashtrays given as banquet favors;

To Christle and Marvilla Winter, Linda Bowerman and Virginia Loy and their coach, Lyman Oliver, for truly delightful entertainment, which will not soon be forgotten;

To the Flathead County High School administration for its graciousness in permitting us the use of the building for meetings, lunch and exhibits;

To the Boards of Trustees of the Flathead County Library, the Kalispell Public Library and the Whitefish Library Association for their outstanding contributions to the success of our meeting;

To the local press and radio for their excellent coverage;

And finally, but by no means least, to our friends the exhibitors for their interesting and helpful displays and for their loyal support;

To one and all,our heartfelt thanks for their generous contributions to the successful conduct of this, our 43rd annual meeting.

Mildred Graw
Lesley M. Heathcote
Chairman

The conference officially adjourned.

For the small group who remained a very fitting and pleasant conclusion was provided by the delightful tea presented at the Hacienda by the Kalispell, Flathead County and Whitefish libraries.

Montana State Library Association

Committee

Library Development

As a basis to promoting Library Development in Montana, the Library Development Committee of M.S.L.A. undertook this first year to acquire a background of present library conditions in Montana as a basis for planning for the future. The following points were studied by the committee:

1. What constitutes good library service. What should the borrower be able to get from his library.
2. What is the library situation at present in Montana in regard to adequate service and budgets as compared to A.L.A. standards.
3. What have other states done in the way of library development.

Each member of the Library Development Committee took one of the above points and reported upon it fully. Mrs. Patterson made a map of Montana showing at a glance the areas which do not meet A.L.A. standards in budgets or book supply. The findings of the various committee members have been combined in this single report of the Library Development Committee. The reports of individuals committee members in full are on file for future reference and will be given the new Library Development Committee Chairman.

In answer to point 1. (what constitutes good library service). The Committee members reported that there are general areas in which activities may be initiated in some degree without undue strain or radical changes in the selected materials already on hand and practically in prospect. These areas are Public Relations, Adult Education, Youth Program, Cooperation with other agencies, Extension of Service Area. In the first area of Public relations, the library must take the initiative in making the community aware of its resources and services. Newspaper coverage is standard, radio time is most desirable. The Circulation of the Librarian is sometimes as beneficial as the circulation of books. The community must be educated to be library-minded. In the area of Adult Education, simple activities would include suggested discussion topics with reading lists for clubs, sponsorship of discussion groups, preparation of reading lists on current topics of interest, speakers, lecture courses, workshops, special liason with unions, service clubs, and other civic groups. In Area 3 Youth Program, the attractive reading facilities and story hours are fairly standard for smaller children. These activities may be elaborated into hobby programs such as children's theatre or nature study, discussion groups for teen agers. In Area 4 Cooperation with other Agencies, there should be a planned program with schools, County Extension Agents so that these groups become dependent upon the library. In Area 5 Extension of Service, the library should increase the number and kinds of people served by every means possible. This might include some financial and practical arrangements with county authorities to serve nearby rural areas without county service. Circulation may be effected by individual library calls, leaving books on deposit in outlying areas with responsible persons, rural schools, home demonstration clubs or by bookmobile. In summary a quotation from Carl Vitz, Director of the Cincinnati Public Library, "The book has been and still is a marvelously excellent way of packing

thought so that it maybe permanently preserved, easily stored and conveniently made available to the consumer. But now that other ways of packaging knowledge have developed, it would be foolish and suicidal for libraries not to broaden their programs correspondingly. Just as the modern grocer will sell peas fresh or dried, in the can or frozen, so the modern librarian will wish to satisfy his reader's quest for knowledge in the form best suited to his needs,be it printed form, slide, or recording. He will want to bring these materials in the best possible way to the users whether this be through a library building, bookmobile, or perhaps through radio or educational TV."

A library should be a community center for the dissemination of ideas. A library should not be the place you call for a missing word in your crossword puzzle, or where you wander in for a book on a rainy day, but is a living thing where the promotion of enrichment by the written word is a principle that is held up in every way at all times to people of all ages. More specifically, the library should go out fingers into every organization and program in the community so that the library can respond to the needs of individuals and organizations,sometimes even before these persons or groups of persons know they have needs. The library should even go to the extreme of placing a card before the business man at his service club to acquaint him with library reading matter on automation, international affairs, industry; politics, etc.

In regard to Point 2. What is the library situation at present in Montana in regard to adequate service and budgets as compared with A.L.A. standards. There are only 3 areas which meet or exceed A.L.A. standards in regard to income. These three areas are Glacier, Fergus, Missoula Counties. There are only three areas which meet or exceed A.L.A. standards in regard to book collection size. These are Judith Basin, Lewis and Clark,and Choteau. The tables showing these comparisons are at the end of this report.
In regard to Point 3. What are other states doing in regard to library development, the committee found that 7 states favored county libraries, 7 favored regional libraries as state branches, 18 favored regional libraries as multi-county units, 4 favored allocation of funds to libraries, 3 favored library service centers in regions, 4 favored bookmobile service from state library,12 are in the process of developing plans,1 had no policy in development to date, and 6 did not reply. The table showing which states favored which plans is attached.

With this background material, the committee hopes that in the future some agreement can be reached by all librarians in the state as to the best plan to inaugurate to develop our libraries so that we are giving the services we should and obtaining the financial support as a result of these services.

Respectfully submitted,

*2 favored library service by contract, 4 favored union catalog at the state library.

Mrs. Peter Melgy
Mrs. Perl Coombs
Miss Harriette Cushman
Mrs. Elsie Ekegren
Mrs. Lilly Eveland
Miss Margaret Hileman
Mrs. Amy Patterson
Mrs. James Bompart
Mrs. Caetherine Chadwick
Mrs. Marjorie J. Moores, Chr.

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As of July 1, Mrs. Mildred Grawe becomes Librarian of the Flathead County Free Library, and Mrs.Cornelia W. Sherman becomes Assistant Librarian.

METHODS FAVORED FOR USE OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

	County Libraries	Regional libraries as state branches	Regional libraries as multi-county units	Allocation of funds to libraries	Library service centers in regions	Bookmobile service from state library	Library service by contract	Union catalog at state library	In process of development plans	No policy in development to date	No response
Alabama			X			X			X		
Arizona									X		
Arkansas									X		
California									X		
Colorado		X			X						
Connecticut					X						
Delaware									X		
Florida				X							
Georgia									X		
Idaho											X
Illinois			X								
Indiana									X		
Iowa			X								
Kansas									X		
Kentucky											X
Louisiana	X		X								
Maine									X		
Maryland			X				X	X			
Massachusetts		X									
Michigan			X		X						
Minnesota	X	X	X	X							
Mississippi		X	X	X			X	X			
Missouri									X		
Nebraska	X		X								
Nevada						X		X			
New Hampshire						X		X			
New Jersey	X										
New Mexico		X									
New York	X		X								
North Carolina				X		X					
North Dakota			X								
Ohio									X		
Oklahoma											X
Oregon									X		
Pennsylvania										X	
Rhode Island											X
South Carolina	X		X								
South Dakota		X	X								
Tennessee			X								
Texas											X
Utah											X
Vermont		X									
Virginia	X		X								
Washington			X								
West Virginia			X								
Wisconsin			X								
Wyoming									X		
Totals	7	7	18	4	3	4	2	4	12	1	6

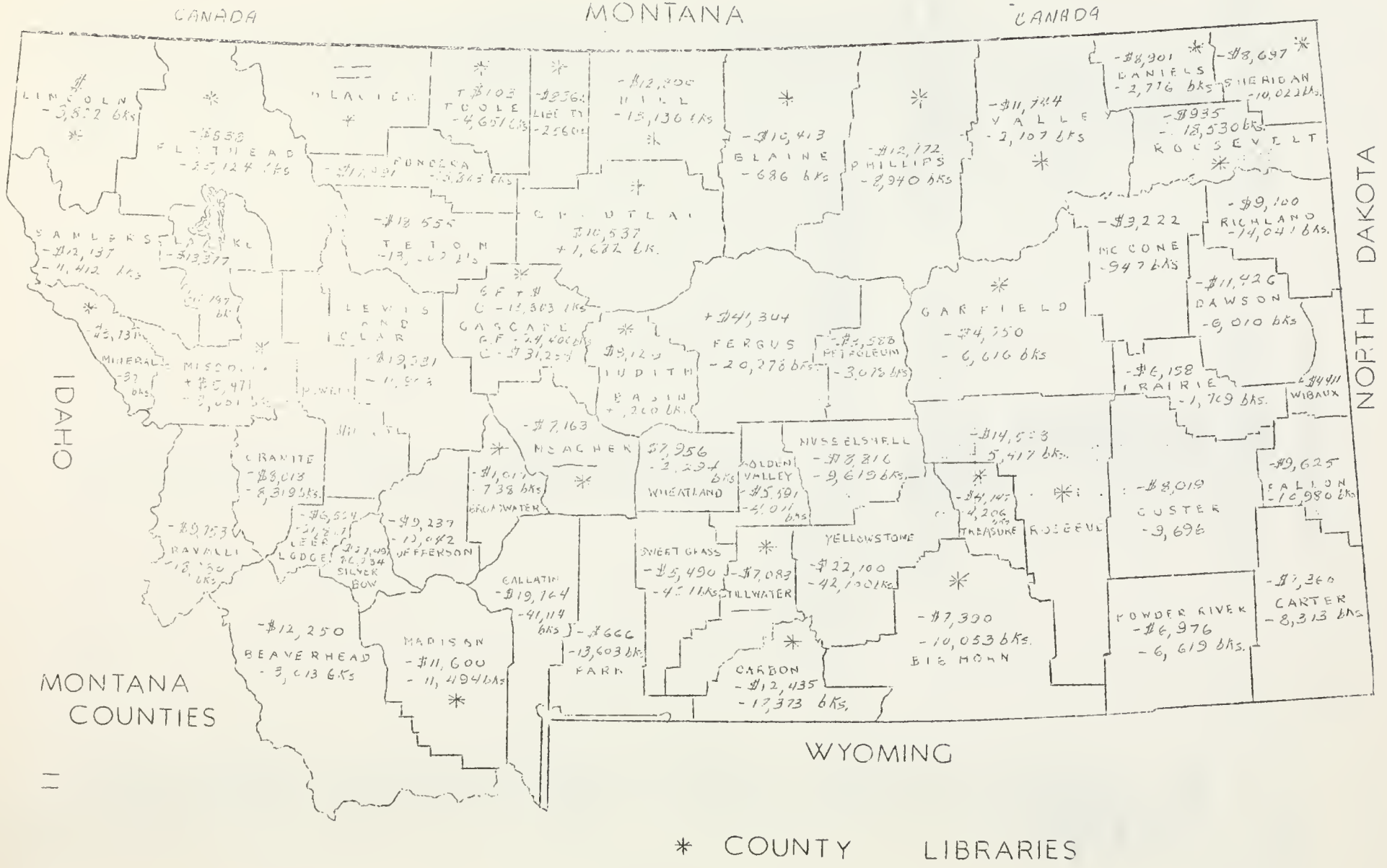
MONTANA COUNTIES

COUNTY	INCOME Below Potential Income		BOOK COLLECTION Less than ALA Standard	
Beaverhead	-$12,250		- 3,013	
Big Horn	- 7,390		-10,053	
Blaine	- 10,423		- 686	
Broadwater	- 1,017		- 738	
Carbon	- 12,435		-17,373	
Carter	- 7,360		- 8,373	
Cascade, G.F. County	- 31,254		-24,406 -13.883	
/ Choteau	-10,537			/ 1,682
Custer	- 8,019		- 9.696	
Daniels	- 8,901		- 2,776	
Dawson	- 11,426		- 6,010	
Deer Lodge	- 6,594		-21,827	
Fallon	- 9,625		-10,980	
Fergus		/41,344	-20,278	
Flathead	- 838		-25,124	
Gallatin	- 19,764		-41,114	
Garfield	- 4,750		- 6,616	
Glacier				
GoldenValley	- 5,591		- 4,011	
Granite	- 8,013		- 8,319	
Hill	- 12,800		-15,136	
Jefferson	- 9,239		-12,042	
/ Judith Basin	- 9,129			/ 1,200
Lake	- 13,377		-11,787	
/ Lewis and Clark	- 19,381			/11,993
Liberty	- 8,362		- 2,560	
Lincoln			- 3,822	
McCone	- 3,222		- 947	
Madison	- 11,600		-11,494	
Meagher	- 7,163			
Mineral	- 3,731		- 32	
Missoula		/5,471	- 3,851	
Musselshell	- 8,816		- 9,619	
Park	- 666		-13,603	
Petroleum	- 3,588		- 3,078	
Phillips	- 12,172		- 8,940	
Pondera	- 17,991		- 13,883	
Powder River	- 6,976		- 6,619	
Powell	- 11,309			
Prairie	- 6,158		- 1,709	
Ravalli	- 9,753		-18,080	
Richland	- 9,100		-14,041	
Roosevelt	- 9,535		-18,530	
Rosebud	- 14,508		- 5,417	
Sanders	- 12,137		-11,412	
Sheridan	- 8,697		-10,022	
Silver Bow	- 22,491		-36,284	
Stillwater	- 7,083			

MONTANA COUNTIES

County	INCOME Below Potential Income	BOOK COLLECTION Less than ALA Standard
Sweet Grass	- 5,490	- 421
Teton	- 18,555	-13,602
Toole	- 103	- 4,651
Treasure	- 4,147	- 4,206
Valley	- 11,744	- 2,107
Wheatland	- 7,956	- 2,294
Wibaux	- 4,411	
Yellowstone	- 22,100	-42,100
	$505,608 below potential income for all the counties	537,565 books Number less than ALA standard for all counties

The above figures are based on Montana County and Public Library statistics for 1953; 1953-54; and 1954-55.


CANADA
MONTANA
CANADA
NORTH DAKOTA
IDAHO
WYOMING
LINCOLN
-3,552 bks
FLATHEAD
-25,124 bks
GLACIER
TOOLE
-4,651 bks
LIBERTY
-2560
HILL
-15,136 bks
BLAINE
-686 bks
PHILLIPS
-2,940 bks
VALLEY
-2,107 bks
DANIELS
-2,716 bks
SHERIDAN
-10,021 bks
ROOSEVELT
-18,530 bks
RICHLAND
-14,041 bks
MC CONE
-947 bks
DAWSON
-6,010 bks
GARFIELD
-1,150
-6,616 bks
PRAIRIE
-1,709 bks
WIBAUX
FALLON
-10,980 bks
CUSTER
-9,696
FERGUS
-20,276 bks
PETROLEUM
-3,078 bks
JUDITH BASIN
+1,260 bks
LEWIS AND CLARK
TETON
-13,021 bks
PONDERA
-5,845 bks
GLACIER
SANDERS
-11,137
-11,412 bks
LAKE
-13,377
MINERAL
-32 bks
MISSOULA
+5,471
-2,051 bks
POWELL
GRANITE
-3,018
-3,319 bks
RAVALLI
-13,130 bks
LEWIS AND CLARK
-21,211
LEE METCALF
-21,734
SILVER BOW
-22,491
JEFFERSON
-13,042
BROADWATER
-1,738 bks
MEAGHER
-1,017
WHEATLAND
-2,294 bks
GOLDEN VALLEY
-1,011 bks
MUSSELSHELL
-3,816
-9,619 bks
CASCADE
C.F. -24,406 bks
C. -31,254
GALLATIN
-19,164
-41,114 bks
FARM
-666
-13,603 bks
MADISON
-11,600
-11,494 bks
BEAVERHEAD
-3,013 bks
SWEET GRASS
-5,490
-4,111 bks
STILLWATER
-7,083
YELLOWSTONE
-22,100
-42,100 bks
CARBON
-12,435
-17,373 bks
BIG HORN
-7,390
-10,053 bks
TREASURE
-4,206 bks
ROSEBUD
-14,513
-5,417 bks
POWDER RIVER
-6,976
-6,619 bks
CARTER
-8,313 bks
MONTANA COUNTIES
* COUNTY LIBRARIES

PUBLICATIONS

In accordance with the resolution passed at Miles City in May 1955, the Publications Committee planned and has published three issues of the Montana Library Quarterly. A full financial statement will be presented by Mrs. Smith, the M.S.L.A. Treasurer, but we should like to point out here that income from advertisements has to a large extent supported the Quarterly; at least it has not been a drag on the Association treasury.

Although the Committee is not wholly satisfied with the Quarterly, it does feel that a beginning has been made and that improvement will come gradually. Next year we plan to have a printed cover which we think will add to its attractiveness. We shall always be interested in receiving suggestions and comments from the membership.

The original motion was to absorb Montana Libraries, but this was due to a misunderstanding. Montana Libraries is the organ of the State Library Extension Commission, and it was felt that it was better to continue it as a separate publication. The original plan was to try this publication for one year. Accordingly, this Committee must now ask for instructions as to whether or not the membership wishes the Quarterly continued.

Ruth O. Longworth, Advertising
Jean Todd, News Notes
Lesley M. Heathcote, Chm.& Ed.

PNLA REPRESENTATIVE

The PNLA Board of Directors met October 8, 1955 at Spokane. Miss Alice McClain was appointed PNLA Secretary. The first item of business was discussion and approval of the budget for 1955-1956. Major budget changes over the previous year were an increased budget for the PNLA Quarterly and an addition of an honorarium for the editor. Other minor increases raised the budget to approximately six hundred dollars over the 1954-55 budget.

A suggestion, which has been carried out, was made to change the insignia appearing on the cover of the Quarterly so that Alberta would be included.

The Board voted to become a member of the ALA Exhibits Round Table.

Committees were tentatively appointed pending acceptance of suggested members. This is a very difficult job, and the President and State Representatives strongly urge all PNLA members to make every effort to serve on committees when asked and to reply promptly so that committee organization can be completed as soon as possible each year.

Preliminary plans for a Golden Jubilee Conference in 1959 were made. An Executive Committee for the conference, made up of John Richards, Edgar Robinson and Kathleen Campbell was appointed to direct planning.

An invitation from the president of the State College of Washington at Pullman was accepted as the conference site for 1956. The dates were set for August 29-31.

Since that meeting, Mrs. Milda Drennan has agreed to serve as Board Secretary This position differs from the position of PNLA Secretary in that it will be on a permanent basis. The Board Secretary will do secretarial work for the Board and for committee chairmen.

In February, the Board aproved a hundrred-dollar grant to the ALA Washington Office which, with similar grants from other regional and state associations went to make a special fund for aiding the passage of the Library Services Bill.

In March, the Board approved a two-hundred-dollar appropriation for the Young Readers Award Committee for this year and recommended a similar

appropriation each year after referring the matter to the PNLA membership at the 1956 conference. Since the death of Mr. Hartman, of Seattle, who used to finance the award, it is the opinion of the Division of Work with Children and Young People that financing has become precarious.

The Board also voted to recommend to the membership that all section and division dues be collected by the PNLA Treasurer. This practice is followed by ALA and by many other professional associations.

The Board will also present a recommendation that a scholarship be established. Details will be worked out at a later date.

The Executive Committee for the Ford Foundation Grant has decided to drop the proposed post-conference workshop in favor of a regular session during the conference. Dr. Lieberman, Dr. Kroll, and possibly an assistant director will serve as a panel to discuss what librarians in the region can do to help with the survey.

Merwin M. Moores

MONTANA STATE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

While the Friends of the Library is not a new movement in the state, up until the last annual meeting of the Montana Library Association it was more or less an unorganizes venture. The members usually were persons wishing ti geke their local librarian with some specific project and in paying a dollar membership became associate members of the MSLA.

However, there was one exception in Hill county. Under the able leadership of Mrs. Marjorie Moores, the librarian of the Hill County Rural Library, a Hill County Friends of the Library Association was formed and performed a great service for the library and the community.

At the annual meeting of the MSLA at Miles City in May 1955, it was decided to try to expand the idea of local units organized to interpret the library to the community and the community to the library. For this trial venture, Harriette E. Cushman of Bozeman was elected as State Chairman of the Friends of the Library.

During the past year there has been no great increase in state memberships of the Friends of the Library. It still remains about 100 memberships. However, there has been a considerable increase in the movement toward local groups. The Hill County Group still remains the outstanding strong group that it was in its inception. In addition a strong group has been organized in Glacier County and Stillwater County.

Movement is underway to start groups in Dawson, Sanders and Sweetgrass Counties. Inquiry came to the Chairman from Roosevelt County but no follow-up was possible.

In Flathead County a definite group has been formed. So far all its energy has been turned to the building or remodeling of the Courthouse, so that eventually the Flathead County Library may have adequate housing space.

Some small effort has been made to have a Friends group in Lewis and Clark County. So far efforts have produced no results.

Perhaps the greatest handicap in getting these Friends Groups activated is the state chairman is sorely handicapped in the matter of budget. Without a librarian who is sold on the idea of a Friends Group and is willing to spend a great deal of time on its formation, it seems impossible at present to greatly expand the state program. If the state chairman could visit prospective

groups personally, it is her opinion that many groups could be formed and made to be a great help in furthering the library service of the state.

Should the Federal Library Services Bill pass there will be a real need for Friends Groups and with the passage of such a bill, monies should be allocated to the organization to help in the setting up and functioning of multiple county library services.

Regretting that the present state chairman has not been able to accomplish a great deal more, this slight report is most humbly submitted.

Harriette E. Cushman
State Chairman

MEMBERSHIP

The committee on membership submits the following report:

Montana State Library Association membership for the year ending June 30, 1956, now stands at 176. This includes one new life membership, making a total of 4 life members, 1 institutional member and 77 associate members.

Respectfully submitted

Clare Smith, Chairman
Zada Bridges
Mrs. William Cowan
Mrs. Frances Plummer

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Members of the MSLA who attended the Conference in Helena in 1954 will be interested to learn that Janice Kee who was so helpful to us there has resigned as Executive Secretary of the Public Libraries Division of ALA to assume the position of Secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

SCHOOL AND PUBLIC LIBRARY COOPERATION

One of the outcomes of the 1955 meeting of Montana State Library Association was a recognition of the importance of a closer working relationship between school and public libraries. Toward this end, a state coordinating committee was appointed in May 1955.

Under date of May 23, 1955, a bulletin was sent out to all Montana school administrators, from Mary M. Condon, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, containing the basic requirements of a good school library. She urged that school personnel consult with local public librarians toward improving quality of book stock and obtaining a more favorable discount for book purchases.

During the 1955 teacher institute program, public librarians and teachers throughout the eastern half of Montana discussed together mutual objectives and individual problems. Techniques and procedures for improving library services to elementary classrooms and expanding the services of the public library were presented and discussed.

In December, 1955, a bulletin mentioning a delightful meeting of "Friends of the Library" and describing the excellent team-work existing between the schools and the public library in Glacier County was distributed jointly from the State Department of Public Instruction and the State Library Extension Commission to all County Superintendents and public librarians throughout Montana.

Through the media of the Montana Library Quarterly, bulletins from the State Department of Public Instruction and the State Library Extension Commission, valuable information for improved library services has been supplied to school personnel and public librarians.

Miss Virginia Walton has appeared twice at state-wide meetings of county school administrators with valuable information toward a more closely knit library program. Her counsel has been invaluable in the administration of the program thus far.

Interest in the program and effort towards its success are earnestly solicited from all schools and public library personnel. On these responses depends the effectiveness of our cooperative efforts.

Grace Baldwin
John Cushman
Dorothy Jun
Ruth Longworth
Helen Prichard
Laura Jane Taft
Winnafern Moore, Chairman

MONTANA AUTHORS

(This Committee report should be prefaced by a statement from the President of MSLA that in this instance she managed a complete "Flubbing" of correspondence and follow-through, and she hereby offers public apology to M. Catherine White and the members of her committee for no apparent attempt at coordination and sharing of information offered. Letters that should have been written were not written; and thought that should have been given to this worthwhile and significant project was not engaged in. Your President asks your charity in accepting this apology.)

Report from M. Catherine White, Montana State University Library, from letter recently received: "I have worked on the author project as much as I could with the other things to be done and in between moving the reference collection from place to place in the building. I completed a Checklist of Montana Authors, with preference sheets, to aid in the selection of the fifty names to be submitted by Montana for publication in the loose-leaf biographical work, Who's Who among Northwest Authors, sponsored by the College and Reference Division of PNLA... I am sending you, under separate cover, a copy of the items so that you can see what has been done. To begin with the Checklist: the names were compiled from our files and from the Missoula Public Library's clipping file on Montana authors. Only two or three names of authors have been sent in by librarians since the project was started! I am certain that some "Montana" authors worth considering for the forthcoming publication have been overlooked, and I have left a blank sheet for the names and data of such persons. The point system is intended only as a guide to the committee in making the final decision... I have almost finished mailing a copy of the Checklist,

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with the preference sheets, to each library in the state -- not to each librarian, as the latter practice would have involved considerably more time and expense. I thought that each librarian would consult her staff to make sure that all interested persons had a chance to suggest names for inclusion in the fifty to be selected. Will you please remind the librarians at a general meeting to be sure to express their preferences on the sheets rpovided for that purpose and to return them with the sheets for additional names and data, to the library by May 10. The librarians may keep the Checklists.

"...As soon as the committee,or any group you appoint, decides upon the fifty names, then we can send out the outlines and requests to any of the fifty authors chosen who have not already sent in the material. Also, the committee can begin editing the sketches. On the whole,they are quite good...I have tried to find out from the editor of the forthcoming publication, Mrs. Hazel Mills,the date or approximate deadline for sending in the sketches, but as yet I have not succeeded. Two months ago I wrote Ronald Todd to ask for some sample sketches as I understood the University of Washington was employing a person to write all the Washington sketches from material on the outlines in their files. He replied that they had not yet begun to work on this project but that he would send me sample sketches as soon as they were ready. To date I have not received any. The sample sketch of Ruby El Hult Sether,which I sent to Montana authors,is a copy of a sample sketch Mrs. Mills sent me. You will find a copy in the material I am forwarding to you.

@After the work on the fifty Montana authors is completed, an effort can be made to revise the current Checklist,possibly arranging it strictly in alphabetical order, and to have it issued in 1957, with supplements at intervals. The revised list should include all current authors, probably, not just those who have had a book of general interest published since 1935. A checklist of authors now deceased should also be compiled and data gathered on all persons listed. There will be work still for a new committee! If the PNLA project proves enough of a success financially, additional sheets will undoubtedly be issued at intervals.

"The preparation of the Checklist took an incredible amount of time-- it meant checking the L.C. Catalog and all Supplements for complete lists of titles, checking of biographical sources for references, searching our clipping file of authors and that of the Public Library, making inquiries and writing letters to persons and publishers for addresses, etc. In addition,of course, there were letter heading and envelopes to be typed, as well as envelopes for the Checklists. On most of the letters to authors I knew or with whom I had had previous correspondence, I added a brief personal note. It was slow going, and especially considering the conditions under which we have worked this year!"

ALA COUNCILOR

The ALA Councilor reports no meetings attended but that she has been keeping up with the reorganization of the ALA, and hopes to enjoy the meeting in Miami.

Ann Whitmack

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Congratulations to the Whitefish Public Library for winning honorable mention for the John Cotton Dana award!

1957 MEETING PLACE

The Committee reports that Billings has asked to be Convention host for May, 1957. Miss Whitmack also makes the suggestion and recommendation that the Association consider meeting only once every two years so that librarians might be better able to attend the meetings of PNLA at least part of the time.

Margaret Hileman
Rev. James White
Ann Whitmack,Ch.

PUBLICITY

A letter from Merwin M. Moores, Chairman gives the following: "...I do not have a report to make to the Association. I am sure that my committee would have been a good one had I been able to use them; and for their sakes, I feel I should make a public apology to the Association as well as you. The failure of the committee to act creatively this year is my responsibility entirely and I am sorry for it, even though I do not know how I could have done otherwise and kept my job." (Let those of us who have never been caught in such a predicament be truly grateful)

LEGISLATIVE

The Legislative Committee has principally been concerned with pushing the progress of the Federal Library Services Bill and has worked closely with librarians and Friends of Libraries. At a joint meeting of the Legislative Committee and the Montana State Library Extension Commission in February, legal problems were discussed and a motion was made to have the Legislative Committee clear with the Attorney General's office regarding the legality of a county library's holding back operating funds over a period of years to erect a building. The chairman's husband later pointed out that as the Chairman of the Legislative Committee of MSLA she has no claim to the Attorney General's time, since his decisions are given to State Boards and Commissions and not to groups not connected with the State of Montana. These legal problems have been referred to the President of the Association who in turn should take them up with the Commission.

Miss Kathleen Campbell
Mrs. John Marchi
Mrs. Ruth Longworth
Edmunc Tommey
Mrs. Leo Graybill, Chm.

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NEWS & NOTES

Dan Whetstone of Cut Bank is the author of a new book with Montana as its setting, entitled Frontier Editor. It is a delightful book of personal reminiscence, starting with Dan's arrival in Cut Bank in 1909 through to the present day. His story is incidental to the picture he gives us of a segment of Montana, undergoing a process of growth and change. It will be a valuable addition for the libraries' shelf of Montana authors and books about Montana.

R.O.L.

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Parmly Billings Memorial Library will hold a two-week training course in August, under the direction of Miss Lucille Simpson,formerly librarian, Great Falls Public Library. The class will be open to any person with two years of college and an interest in librarywork. From the class personnel will be chosen a number of clerical assistants for work in the Public Library at Billings. Further information may be secured by writing to Miss Ann Whitmack,Librarian, Parmly Billings Memorial Library,Billings, Montana.

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT from May 1, 1955 to May 1, 1956

Receipts

May 1	Balance on hand	$494.99
May 9	Deposit (meals)	38.25
May 9	Dues	123.00
May 9	Registration	59.00
June 14	Deposit	19.50
July 2	Deposit	16.00
July 26	Deposit	92.50
August	Deposit	46.25
September 3	Deposit	57.00
September 27	Deposit	49.00
October 25	Deposit	7.00
November 30	Deposit	17.00
December 21	Deposit	94.00
January 12	Deposit	70.00
February 1	Deposit	60.50
March 1	Deposit	8.00
March 28	Deposit	7.50
April 19	Deposit	7.00
Total Receipts		$1266.49

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT from May 1, 1955 to May 1, 1956

Disbursements

May 7	Gretchen Schenk	$251.65
May 9	Metropolitan Cafe	72.10
May 10	Ruth Wehr (Hill Co. Friend)	16.00
May 11	Miles Howard Hotel	10.00
August 8	Harriette Cushman	3.66
September 2	Harriette Cushman	10.05
October 22	Harriette Cushman	4.90
November 14	Helena Typewriter	11.40
November 29	Phillips Book Store	20.30
December 6	Helena Typewriter	2.25
January 24	Phillips Book Store	3.23
February 7	Lesley Heathcote	4.00
February 7	Shirley A. Taylor	61.75
February 7	Phillips Book Store	1.45
March 9	Phillips Book Store	19.09
March 10	Mrs. Leo Graybill	10.00
March 28	Alice M. Ridenour	2.40
April 10	Montana Extension Service	33.80
Total Disbursements		$546.78
Balance on hand	$1266.49 546.78 719.71	$719.71

Montana Library Quarterly Account	$201.53	
4 Life Members	80.00	
(Included, but separate accounts.)	$281.53	281.53
		$438.18

Respectfully submitted,

Clare Smith, Treasurer

MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY REPORT

July 1, 1955 to April 1, 1956

Receipts

July 11	V. J. Languille & Co.	$28.00
July 13	Puget Sound News Co.	46.50
August 10	Dieter Bookbinding Co.	24.25
September 6	L. Sandsmark (Doubleday)	28.00
December 8	Remington Rand	35.00
December 13	Gaylor Brothers	28.00
December 15	H. R. Huntting Co.	28.00
January 5	College Bindery	68.00
January 14	J. K. Gill	46.50
March 1	Columbia University	1.50
Total Receipts		$333.75

Disbursements

November 14	Helena Typewriter Co.	$11.40
November 29	Phillips Book Store	20.30
November 29	Lesley Heathcote	8.75
December 6	Helena Typewriter	2.25
January 26	Phillips Book Store	3.23
February 2	Lesley Heathcote	4.00
February 2	Phillips Book Store	1.45
February 2	Shirley Taylor	61.75
March 9	Phillips Book Store	19.09
Total Disbursements		$132.22
Balance on hand		$201.53

This report compiled and submitted by:

Clare Smith

Treasurer

BOOKBINDING DETAILS

NUMBER THREE

SANDPAPER
CAMBRIC
PADDING

A book with a narrow inside margin can often be rebound if the back is sanded before sewing, instead of being knife trimmed. This is careful handwork that saves your money.

Petticoat cambric, now in style again, wouldn't do for book hinges. The joint between book and cover needs much heavier weight stuff than that concealing a knee. Specially made, tough, opaque paper is also required for end sheets.

"Padding" seems an odd word for the light gluing process used to hold trimmed book pages. Stranger still, when the glue dries this pile is broken into sections only .050 of an inch thick. These are put through a machine which gently but firmly scores them so that the bound book will bend and open easily.

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